

Energy & Environment Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: August 12, 2015, 5:40 PM
LOCATION: Majority Conference Room, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Peter Loughran
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Hector Rodriguez (arrived 5:46 PM), and Ken Ronk
EXCUSED: Legislators Richard Parete and Mary Wawro
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Manna Jo Greene, Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Tim Rose, Grassroots Environmental Educator Director Ellen Weinenger, League of Women Voters of the Mid Hudson Valley Observer Corp Member Vic Melville and Guest Brian Baysinger,

Chairman Loughran called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM noting the meeting would start with presentations pending the arrival of other members.

Guest Presentation: Resource Recovery Agency Report – Tim Rose, Executive Director

Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose noted fourteen towns have signed on to the agreement with the agency. He stated the following towns have indicated they will not be signing on: Saugerties, Ulster, Marlboro, Marbletown, and the City of Kingston. He noted the Board will have to vote on this agreement and he prepared two budgets for the Board to review, one with with the towns accepting the service and one without providing service to the towns. He noted he received no direct communication from the City of Kingston or Marbletown.

Legislator Ronk inquired on the impact to the pull charge with the towns not included. Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose stated it would raise it and it would be calculated in the fees for next year. He noted the agreement was for \$62 per pull for this year. He noted it was estimated at \$62 - \$93 with only nine towns signed on. He felt it would be in the high \$70's for service to only fourteen towns.

Legislator Ronk asked if he had gone back to the towns that had signed on to indicate there would be an increase to the fees in future years. Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose stated a formal letter was sent to all the towns from the attorney when only nine had signed on. He noted the Board was intending to vote on it last month but they felt it was unfair to hold the towns to a signed contract when their objective to have all 19 towns sign on had not been met. He stated the letter from the Towns was sent at the end of July. Legislator Greene reported the communication at the Supervisors meetings has been that some towns do not believe they had the time necessary to process the agreements. She hoped the Agency Board would allow late towns to sign on to the agreements. Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose noted they had contracts with ten of the fourteen towns. He stated he made phone calls today to the

remaining four towns: Gardiner, Hurley, Lloyd and Shandaken. He noted the delay with awaiting upcoming Town Board meetings.

MOTION NO. 1 RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk
Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Rodriguez, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2 Resolution No. 296 & 318 August 18, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolutions No. 296 & 318 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2015 (A Local Law Establishing A Sustainable Green Fleet Policy) & Authorizing The Commissioner of Finance To Accept The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation's Offer To Purchase A Parcel Of County-Owned Real Property In The Town Of Lloyd And Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Convey Such Parcel – Department Of Finance

Chairman Loughran noted he would vote yes for both of the Resolutions just to move them out of committee but whether he would vote in favor of them on the floor, he was not certain. He reiterated his prior concern that the sustainable green fleet policy should be a local law and not a policy.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Rodriguez, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Chairman Loughran noted his desire to receive more information regarding the parcel discussed in Resolution No. 318; including communication from the Town of Lloyd before selling the land to the DEC. He stated he would like to postpone this Resolution for a month.

Motion to Withdraw Motion No. 2 Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion to Withdraw Motion No. 2 Made By: Legislator Ronk
Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Rodriguez, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Chairman Loughran noted this parcel had been before the Legislature before. He indicated he did not see urgency in moving this resolution. Legislator Rodriguez suggested if answers provided before session that the Committee hold a special meeting.

Motion No. 3 Resolution No. 296 August 18, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 296 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2015 (A Local Law Establishing A Sustainable Green Fleet Policy)

Resolution No. 296 Summary: This Resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2015 and, pending the approval of the County Executive, will be assigned a local law number consecutive to the last local law adopted and approved in 2015.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Rodriguez, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 3 Resolution No. 318 POSTPONEMENT

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Text of Motion: Resolved to postpone Resolution No. 318 to next month for further information - Authorizing The Commissioner of Finance To Accept The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation's Offer To Purchase A Parcel Of County-Owned Real Property In The Town Of Lloyd And Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Convey Such Parcel – Department Of Finance

Resolution No. 318 Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Ulster County Commissioner of Finance to accept the DEC's offer to purchase the Parcel for \$178,500.00 and authorizes and directs the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature to make, execute and deliver to the DEC any and all documents required to transfer the Parcel from the County to the DEC, including but not limited to, a quitclaim deed conveying the interest of the County in said parcel, which quitclaim deed shall contain the covenant that the said County of Ulster shall in no event be or become liable for any defects in title conveyed for any cause whatsoever, and that no claim or demand of any nature shall

ever be made against the County of Ulster arising from such sale, conveyance or the proceedings leading thereto; and a Land Purchase Agreement; said any and all documents to be reviewed and approved by the Ulster County Attorney.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Rodriguez, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Postponed

New Business

Legislator Rodriguez distributed a draft local law for discussion at next month's meeting regarding the banning of microbeads.

Guest Presentation: Grassroots Environmental Education – Ellen Weininger, Director, Educational Outreach

Ms. Weininger thanked the Committee for allowing her the time to speak to them. She provided an introduction of her company and noted they are a not-for-profit, which provides science-based environmental health education throughout the state and nationally. She noted counties around New York State are looking at and duplicating Schoharie County Board of Supervisors' letters to support the American Medical Society's request that Legislatures support the request for health impact assessments for gas pipeline infrastructure. She distributed a sample resolution and supporting documents. She suggested passed resolutions should be directed to Richard Lake, the author of the original resolution and letters requesting support and a member of the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors'. She noted this was consistent with the Ulster County Legislature's ban on fracking waste.

Old Business: Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission – Brief Update

Legislator Rodriguez noted the Commission met at the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency at their last meeting. He indicated there was no quorum at the meeting but there was good discussion regarding food waste and composting. He noted the attendance of haulers and entities involved in specifically food waste disposal. He stated this was a tricky as it involved a certain degree of monopolization but was key area for future solid waste management. He stated the Agency is operating a food waste compost. He noted it was a three to one food waste to yard waste mix. He stated the Commission is working toward a finalized report. He noted the Commission's visit to the Delaware County visit and the follow-up discussion with the representatives from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Old Business: Climate Smart Committee – Brief Update

Legislator Greene noted the Committee was meeting at the end of the month. She noted they are looking to understand the County Siemens' Energy Audit. She noted this was being mirrored in activities occurring at the Public Works and Capital Projects Committee. She noted there were

two new solar system installments being discussed by the Committee including one at the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency's landfill in the Town of Ulster. She noted this would be a 2-mega watt facility being installed by Solar City. She discussed the net metering process of this facility which will generate energy but use it elsewhere. She indicated the other facility, being installed at SUNY Ulster, is a 1-mega watt facility that will be utilizing the electricity on site. Legislator Ronk noted net metering benefits the utility more than the homeowner as the homeowner would sell back the electricity for less than the retail cost. Legislator Greene wondered if there would be a role for the Legislature in addressing this issue.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:09 PM

Dated the 31th day of August, 2015
Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk
Minutes Approved on: September 3, 2015