

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Government Operations and Efficiency

DATE: August 5, 2010

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLACE: UCOB, Library Conference Room, 6th Floor

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairperson Bernardo, Legislators Petit and Shapiro

LEGISLATOR EXCUSED: Legislators Maio, Madsen, Ronk and Zimet

OTHERS ATTENDING: Susan Plonski, Esq., Asst. County Attorney/Contract Mgr; Tom Kadgen, LOWV; Victoria Fabella, Deputy Clerk, Legislature

- The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bernardo at 6:43 PM.
- Joint Meeting of the Government Operations and Efficiency Committee & Public Works & Capital Projects Committee- Monday, September 13, 2010 at 6:00 PM

-Tom Kagen will be presenting at this joint meeting. Tom believes the Legislature should set up a Local Law to provide for oversight of major capital projects.

Legislator Shapiro: Q./ Isn't there something already existing to this effect? I believe an oversight committee needs to be established for any project that is over a certain amount. A./ Tom Kagen: I have to look it up but I don't think the amount was ever established. There was a 1987 Resolution that just said major capital projects. I believe this needs to be a Local Law. With the new codification, resolutions may not hold up over time they way a local law will.

Chairperson Bernardo commented that she and Legislator Fabiano, Chairman of the Public Works and Capital Projects Committee, have spoken at length with Mr. Kadgen who has some really great ideas. She is looking forward to have all members of the Government Operations and Efficiency Committee listen to Tom's presentation at the joint meeting.

- Mandates Resolution Update
-Adopted
- WiFi Update
-Legislator Richard Parete has been in communication with the County IS Department. IS Director Sylvia Wohlfahrt will be attending the September meeting to provide the Committee with further information on this project.

- Personnel Manual Update
-Legislator Maio will continue to work with Personnel Director Brenda Bartholomew. Most of the titles have been updated. The document has been scanned and is now in electronic format.
- Nepotism Policy Information (See handout Re: Livingston County Michigan and Santa Barbara County CA Anti-Nepotism Policies)
-The Committee has begun to collect information on Nepotism for potential creation of an Ulster County Policy
- New Business
-Legislator Shapiro informed the Committee that effective January 1, 2011 the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets will no longer be responsible for dog licensing. It will become the responsibility of the towns. The positive aspects are that it can be revenue generating for the towns and there will be more local control, as many people do not get their dogs licensed. The bad aspect is that there will no longer be a state-wide database.
Now, the towns can take this over, or the County can take it over and the towns can opt in. Some expenses to the County would include tags, the database and paperwork. However, it is a source of revenue. There is cost in setting it up, but we do have the infrastructure. We have the Clerk's office. It's something to look at.
- Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry Bernardo/vf
Chairperson, Government Operations and Efficiency Committee