

**Laws & Rules, Governmental Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: July 17, 2017 – 6:30 PM
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Roberts
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Belfiglio, Donaldson, Lopez, Loughran, R. Parete,
and Rodriguez
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Berky & J. Parete, Legislative Counsel Barnett

Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Motion No. 1: Moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the June 19, 2017 meeting

Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Belfiglio, Donaldson, Lopez, Loughran, R. Parete, Roberts
& Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Minutes are APPROVED**

Resolutions for the July 18, 2017 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 281: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 5 Of 2017, The Ulster County Comprehensive Campaign Finance Reform and Accountability Law, To Be Held On Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 6:05 PM

Resolution Summary: This resolution sets a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 6:05 PM for the purpose of hearing public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2017.

Motion No. 2: Moved to **POSTPONE** Resolution No. 281
Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lopez

Discussion:

Legislator Donaldson asked if there were any financial details provided on the proposed law. The members briefly discussed the public financing component. Legislator R. Parete commented that there has been a campaign finance law on the table for two years and questioned why the sponsors of this law didn't work with Legislator J. Parete to come up with a compromise law. Legislator Rodriguez stated that he had concerns with the contribution limits.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Belfiglio, Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts & Rodriguez
Voting Against: Legislator Loughran
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 1
Disposition: **Resolution is POSTPONED**

Resolution No. 294: Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 4 Of 2017, (A Local Law To Provide For The Collection Of Village Real Property Taxes)

Resolution Summary: This resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2017

Motion No. 3: **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 294**
Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Discussion:

Legislator Loughran asked what the financial impact of the law would be. Legislator Donaldson responded that the county will recoup the cost of making the villages whole when a property is sold at auction. Legislator R. Parete stated that he supports the law. He commented that the Village of Ellenville is a high needs area in the county and should be helped by the county. He added that all of the Villages have expressed support for the law. Legislator Donaldson took issue with representations that have been made that additional staff would need to be added to the Department of Finance. Chairman Roberts recognized Legislator J. Parete who commented that the county is already doing all of the work on the properties that are delinquent in their Town and County taxes and agreed with Legislator Donaldson that the argument of needing additional staff was disingenuous.

Legislator Lopez stated that he did not want to get into the business of bailing people out, but added that it was unfair to make the towns and school districts whole and not the villages.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Belfiglio, Donaldson, Loughran, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts, & Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution is ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 299: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 6 Of 2017, A Local Law Repealing The Wireless Communications Surcharge Authorized By Article Six Of The County Law Of The State Of New York; And Imposing The Wireless Communications Surcharges Pursuant To The Authority Of Tax Law § 186-G, To Be Held On Tuesday, August 8, 2017 At 6:10 PM

Resolution Summary: This resolution sets a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 At 6:10 PM for the purpose of hearing public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 6 of 2017.

Motion No. 4: Moved Resolution No 299 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Discussion:

Legislator Belfiglio commented that the county is in jeopardy of losing \$393,000 in revenue if the law is not implemented. Legislator Donaldson questioned if there was an opportunity to repeal a tax to give people a break. Legislator Rodriguez stated that he believed that if the counties do not exercise this surcharge, the state will. The members were considering the requisite time frames to hold the public hearing and pass the law.

Motion No. 5: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 299
Motion By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Voting In Favor: Legislators Belfiglio, Lopez, Loughran, R. Parete & Rodriguez
Voting Against: Legislators Donaldson & Roberts
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 2
Disposition: Resolution No. 299 is ADOPTED

Resolution No. 316: Confirming Appointment Of Member To The Ulster County Board Of Ethics

Resolution Summary: This resolution confirms the appointment of Kenneth Hassett to fill a vacancy on the Ulster County Board of Ethics for a term to commence immediately through December 31, 2017.

Motion No. 6: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 316
Motion By: Legislator R. Parete
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Discussion:

The members of the committee complimented the choice of Mr. Hassett and requested that they be added to the resolution as co-sponsors.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Belfiglio, Donaldson, Lopez, Loughran, R. Parete & Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution No. 316 is ADOPTED**

Chairman Roberts informed the members that he had been contacted by residents of Plattekill who live in Election District 4 for assistance in temporarily relocating the Poll Site for that district. He explained that the NYS DOT detour to accommodate work to the Route 32 overpass has created a hardship for the voters in that district. He advised the members that the majority of voters from District would have to drive into Orange County and then back into Ulster in order to get to the Poll Site which would take twenty minutes or more. He added that the normal travel time is about five minutes. Legislator R. Parete commented that the Board of Elections should make a change to a more convenient location.

Chairman Roberts asked the members if they would be willing to sign on to a letter from the committee to the Board of Elections requesting a temporary change to the Poll Site during the time that the detour is in place. The members agreed to sign on to the letter.

Chairman Roberts asked if there was any other business, hearing none.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:58 PM

Respectfully submitted: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
Minutes Approved: August 14, 2017