

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

KENNETH J. RONK, JR., Chairman
JAMES F. MALONEY, Vice Chairman
MARY BETH MAIO, Majority Leader
HECTOR S. RODRIGUEZ, Minority Leader
VICTORIA A. FABELLA, Clerk



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MINUTES

JULY 11, 2017

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6:00 PM

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN: 6:08 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Led by Chairman Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRE EVACUATION PLAN

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED THAT LEGISLATORS AND ALL OTHERS MOVE AT LEAST ONE BLOCK AWAY FROM THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING IN ORDER NOT TO IMPEDE THE FIREFIGHTERS IN THEIR DUTIES

CELL PHONES

Please silence cell phones for the duration of the Public Hearings.

ROLL CALL: Present: 16 Absent: 7 (Legislators Thomas Briggs, David Donaldson, Dean Fabiano, Ronald Lapp, Richard Parete, Kevin Roberts, Mary Wawro)

Note: Legislator Mary Wawro arrived at 6:11 PM

6:10 PM - CALL OF THE 1st PUBLIC HEARING BY CLERK:

Proposed Local Law No. 15 of 2016 (A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter Section C-101A And The Ulster County Administrative Code Section A 30-2A, To Amend The Powers And Duties Of The UC Human Rights Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were (2) speakers signed up for public comment.

1. Kerin Hosletter, West Hurley: Ms. Hosletter spoke in favor of allowing the UC Human Rights Commission to hear local cases in hopes of expediting the caseload process. Fifteen months and a 10% success rate is too discouraging and long to receive justice for people whose rights are at risk.
2. Dave Clegg.: Mr. Clegg who is the chairperson for the UC Human Rights Commission, spoke in favor to grant/empower his committee to mediate local cases, however they are not setup to do so and would require funding.

Please Note: Complete content of the public comment period can be heard on the Ulster County Legislative Website.

Motion by Legislator Herbert Litts, second by Legislator Craig Lopez to adjourn the public hearing. All in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED: 6:15 PM

6:15 PM - CALL OF THE 2nd PUBLIC HEARING BY CLERK:

Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016 (A Local Law Establishing A Comprehensive Ulster County Human Rights Law)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were (6) speakers signed up for public comment.

1. Lee Isaacs, Kingston: Lee Isaacs reminisced of a time 50 years ago when women struggled for diversity and equality. Ms. Isaacs spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016 however would like to see Section 18 of the proposed local law removed.
2. Jeff Rindler, LGBTQ Kingston: Jeff Rindler spoke in support of this comprehensive Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016 however Mr. Rindler opposes the added amendment requiring the authorization of special legislative authority from the State of New York.
3. Joanne Myers, Kingston: Joanne Myers is a member of the UC Human Rights Commission who echoed Mr. Clegg and Mr. Jeff Rindler's remarks requesting financial support and Section 18 be removed.
4. Shari Gold, Woodstock: Shari Gold a local attorney, former administrative law judge and member of the UC Human Rights Commission expressed the commission is completely underfunded if their role is to expand.
5. Evelyn Clarke, Port Ewen: Evelyn Clarke Director of the UC Human Rights Commission shared her role, the commission's role and the need for strong partnering with schools and the judicial system providing alternatives to youth incarceration.
6. Dave Clegg, Chairperson, UC Human Rights Commission: Dave Clegg thanked the Legislature for bringing this PLL forward and would like to be in a position financially to support those efforts.

Please Note: Complete content of the public comment period can be heard on the Ulster County Legislative Website.

Motion by Legislator Herbert Litts, second by Majority Leader Mary Beth Maio to adjourn the public hearing. All in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED: 6:31 PM

6:31 PM - CALL OF THE 3rd PUBLIC HEARING BY CLERK:

Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 (A Local Law Prohibiting Discrimination On The Basis Of Gender Identity At Places Of Public Accommodation, Resort Or Amusement)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were (20) speakers signed up for public comment.

1. Jeff Rindler, LGBTQ, Kingston: Jeff Rindler spoke in favor of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 noting the proposed law sends a message that the County of Ulster stands behind everyone.
2. Duffy Violante, Clintondale: Duffy Violante is on the Board of Director's for the Hudson Valley LGBTQ Center who spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016.
3. Jake Salt, Kingston: Jake Salt is the Director of Program and Services for the Hudson Valley LGBTQ Center who spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 less the Section 8 amendment.
4. Kerin Hostetter: Kerin Hostetter is a small business owner who spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 noting other businesses agree for the need of this specific law.
5. Fran Divine: Fran Divine serves on the LGBTQ board who also is President of PFLAG in Kingston who spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
6. Tamara Ehlin, Kingston: Tamara Ehlin is a local business owner and serves on the Hudson Valley LGBTQ board spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
7. Emily Fertel, Kingston: Emily Fertel spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
8. Catherine Fertel: Catherine Fertel spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
9. Lee Isaacs: Lee Isaacs spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
10. Tracy Domasowick, Kerhonkson: Tracy Domasowick spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.

11. Joanne Myers, Kingston: Joanne Myers is a founding member of the LGBTQ community center who spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
12. Zoe Collins, Saugerties: Zoe Collins spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
13. Caelan Manning, Kingston: Caelan Manning spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
14. Mina Barden, Kingston: Mina Barden spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
15. Yvette Quick, Saugerties: Ms. Quick opposes Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 noting New York State has legislation in place rendering this law redundant.
16. Anna Langford, Saugerties: Anna Langford spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment. The NYS Human Rights Law Non-Discrimination Act has not come up for a vote in the Senate since introduced in 2003.
17. Sarah Riederer, Kingston: Sarah Riederer spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
18. Angelina Bouros, Kingston: Angelina Bouros is the Regional Mgr. for the Institute of Family Health in charge of maintenance and security for eleven medical facilities in the county who spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
19. Evie Star: Evie Star spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.
20. Carri McCurdy, Boiceville: Carri McCurdy spoke in support of Proposed Local Law No. 18 of 2016 but opposes the Section 8 amendment.

Please Note: Complete content of the public comment period can be heard on the Ulster County Legislative Website.

Motion by Legislator Herbert Litts, second by Majority Leader Mary Beth Maio to adjourn the public hearing. All in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED: 7:20 PM

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NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Meeting of the Ulster County Legislature will be held next **Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in the Legislative Chambers, Sixth Floor, Ulster County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York.