

Energy & Environment Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: May 7, 2015, 7:00 PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Peter Loughran
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Richard Parete (left 8:20 PM), Hector Rodriguez and Kenneth Ronk
EXCUSED: Legislator Mary Wawro
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Tracey Bartels and Manna Jo Greene, Minority Counsel Erica Guerin, County Attorney Bea Havranek, Fleet Manager Kim Millian, Deputy County Executive Kenneth Crannell, Department of the Environment Director Amanda LaValle, and Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Tim Rose

Chair Loughran called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

MOTION NO. 1 RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of April 9, 2015 & April 16, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk
Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Parete, Rodriguez and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

RRA Report: Tim Rose, Executive Director, Resource Recovery Agency

Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose reported they would be losing the Recycling Coordinator as her last day is in two weeks. He noted Michelle Bergenkamp has accepted a position with Parley, an agency that helps to clean up oceans. He noted she would be working on the Vortex Project, which would take her to places such as Australia, Hawaii and Alaska. Legislator Ronk asked that Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose congratulate Ms. Bergenkamp on behalf of the Legislature. Resource Recovery Agency

Executive Director Rose acknowledged she would be missed not only by the agency but had been recognized throughout the State due to her work in recycling.

He reported in an update to the proposal from the Agency to the Towns that they met last week and the Board was exploring a revision to make recycling more attractive. He noted this proposal was expected to be sent out by the end of the week and stated a meeting with all County Town Supervisors and the RRA Board would be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at the Town of Ulster Senior Center at 5:00 PM. He noted this would be a public meeting and that the Town of Ulster Supervisor offered the Senior Center when it was decided the space at the RRA would be too small.

Legislator Greene asked if this public meeting was a result of the communication between the two Supervisors and the Board members. Resource Recovery Agency Executive Director Rose replied it was as well as other communications received.

Motion No. 2 Resolutions No. 109 May 19, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Parete

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 109 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2015 (A Local Law Establishing A Sustainable Green Fleet Policy) To Be Held On Tuesday, June 16, 2015 At 7:00 PM

Resolution No. 109 Summary: This Resolution noted the submission of Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2015 to the Ulster County Legislature and tabled said Proposed Local Law pending the holding of a public hearing thereon. The Resolution directs the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature to cause a legal notice of said public hearing to be published according to law and that said public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Legislative Chambers, Ulster County Office Building, 6th Floor, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York.

Discussion:

Deputy County Executive Crannell distributed a list of take home vehicles.

Department of the Environment Director LaValle noted the County’s energy costs totaled \$4,178,670 in fiscal year 2014 of which \$1,734,637 is vehicle energy costs. This was updated in the proposal local law.

Legislator Greene noted the extra hybrid word listed in the definition of a “green vehicle”. This was updated in the proposed local law.

Legislator Bartels noted the need to change quantify to qualify in section 5, item 3 of the green fleet policy strategies. This was updated in the proposed local law.

Legislator Greene confirmed with Fleet Manager Millian and Director LaValle that the target works for the operations of the County. Director LaValle stated the goal as indicated was aspirational but realistic. She confirmed this would be 15 passenger cars by 2020. Fleet Manger Millian indicated it was doable with four cars being purchased this year. Deputy County Executive Crannell noted this would have to be subject to appropriations.

Legislator Bartels noted in the policy draft it indicated there would be emissions reductions and sought Committee approval to remove this from the goal. Committee members agreed. Legislator Ronk noted emissions vary by vehicle and by driver. Director LaValle stated this would be reflected in the reports. Deputy County Executive Crannell stated special training to maximize energy efficiency of the green fleet would be provided.

Committee members reviewed extensively the role and powers of the government branches and Section 6, Monitoring of the Green Fleet Policy with County Attorney Havranek for revisions. Proposed changes were updated in the proposed local law document.

County Attorney Havranek suggested a system of reports generated from impacted departments that are reviewed and monitored by a standing or special committee of the Legislature.

County Attorney Havranek also suggested the number in the goal be authorized to change by resolution. She cited the ethic's law as an example. Deputy County Executive Crannell reiterated his suggestion that this goal include language of "within appropriation".

County Attorney Havranek felt the monitoring of the green fleet policy was a self-monitoring by departments operationalizing the policy. Legislator Ronk replied the Fleet Manager, in consultation with the Director of the Department of Environment, was developing and submitting the annual draft "Green Fleet" plan.

Legislator Bartels offers a number of proposed changes to Section 6, including listing "in consultation with the Director of the Department of the Environment" at all places where the Fleet Manager is indicated, changing "Each" to "The" in Section 6, item 4 and deleting the sentence that begins "Inadequate plans". These changes were updated in the proposed law.

Legislator Ronk discussed his goal of having an innovative idea or plan rewarded. Committee members agree that Section 6, item 6 needs to be reworked.

Legislator Rodriguez motioned to postpone the resolution. Legislator Parete seconded.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor of Postponement:	Legislators Loughran, Parete, Rodriguez and Ronk
Voting Against Postponement:	None
No. of Votes in Favor of Postponement:	4
No. of Votes Against Postponement:	0
Disposition:	Resolution postponed.

Motion No. 3 Resolutions No. 32 May 19, 2015

Motion to Postpone Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion to Postpone Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Text of Motion: Resolved to Postpone Resolution No. 132 - Adopting The Ulster County Green Fleet Policy

Resolution No. 132 Summary: This Resolution as postponed, establishes and adopts the "Ulster County Green Fleet Policy" attached to the Resolution as Exhibit A.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor of Postponement: Legislators Loughran, Parete, Rodriguez and Ronk

Voting Against Postponement: None

No. of Votes in Favor of Postponement: 4

No. of Votes Against Postponement: 0

Disposition: Resolution postponed.

Legislator Ronk motioned to take Resolutions 185 and 192 through 196 as a block.

Legislator Rodriguez seconded. All voted in favor.

Motion No. 4 Resolutions No. 185, 192 - 196 May 19, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolutions No. 185, 192 - 196 - Appointing Member To The Ulster County Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission; Confirming Re-Appointment Of A Members To The Environmental Management Council; Confirming Re-Appointment Of Members To The Ulster County Fish And Wildlife Board

Resolution No. 185 Summary: This Resolution confirms the appointment of Lisa Mitten from Hurley as a member at-large of the Ulster County Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission.

Resolution No. 192 Summary: This Resolution confirms the re-appointment of John S. Sansalone of Gardiner, New York 12498 as a member to the Environmental Management Council for the term commencing May 1, 2015 and ending April 30, 2018.

Resolution No. 192 Summary: This Resolution confirms the re-appointment of Cindy Lanzetta of Marlboro, New York 12542 as a member to the Environmental Management Council for the term commencing May 1, 2015 and ending April 30, 2018.

Resolution No. 194 Summary: This Resolution confirms the re-appointment of Thomas J. Briggs to the Ulster County Fish and Wildlife Management Board for a term that commences presently and ends December 31, 2015.

Resolution No. 195 Summary: This Resolution confirms the re-appointment of Albert William Wilklow to the Ulster County Fish and Wildlife Management Board for a term to commence presently and end December 31, 2016.

Resolution No. 196 Summary: This Resolution confirms the re-appointment of Mark Loete to the Ulster County Fish and Wildlife Management Board for a term to commence presently and end December 31, 2016.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Parete, Rodriguez and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Legislator Rodriguez thanked the Legislature, the authors of the Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission and the Commissioners for their work to ensure the appointment of the final member. He noted the qualifications of the new member and the efforts taken by the Commission to locate an at-large member.

New Business – Soil & Water Conservation District – Financial Audit

Legislator Ronk discussed the desire for a financial audit be funded out of the Legislative budget that would go beyond the annual balancing of the checkbook.

Chairman Loughran asked if there was an estimate of the audit. Deputy Clerk Barringer noted this had been estimated at \$5,000 to \$7,000. She noted the Clerk has indicated that money was available.

Legislator Rodriguez inquired why this would not be tasked to the County Comptroller. Legislator Ronk noted they desired an external audit. Legislator Rodriguez discussed the comptroller role.

Legislator Bartels reiterated this would be a full audit of the Agency's books and not just the Agency's contract with the County. She noted the Soil and Water Conservation District Board was supportive of this request.

Legislator Ronk motioned to have the Energy and Environment Committee endorse the Legislature conducting a financial audit of the Soil & Water Conservation District. Legislator Parete seconded.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Loughran, Parete, Rodriguez and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Old Business – Climate Smart (Update)

Legislator Greene offered to discuss this at the next Committee meeting.

Old Business – Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission (Update)

Legislator Rodriguez provided a brief summary of the Commission's Rockland County and Dutchess County facility tours.

Old Business – Committee Meeting Date/Time

Chairman Loughran noted there had been a scheduling issue for Legislator Wawro and conflict with the Public Works and Capital Projects Committee meeting time. Following discussion, it was decided to keep the meeting date and time the same.

Adjournment

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

TIME: 8:25 PM

Dated the 3rd day of June, 2015
Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk
Minutes Approved on: June 8, 2015