

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE: General Services Committee
DATE: June 16, 1997
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Ulster County Office Building
Legislative Chambers
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Legislators Gerentine, Busick,
Cummings, Every, Roberti, Wilkins,
Bertone, Magarelli, Smith
OTHERS PRESENT: Arlene Kearns, Purchasing; Tom Turco,
Harry Castiglione, Board of Elections;
Herb Hekler, Planning; Bonnie Szpulecki,
Insurance

I. PURCHASING

Arlene presented the agenda.

Purchasing Department hires two part-time employees to fill in on an as needed basis. One of these individuals will be out for a period of time. Arlene requested that a temporary person be hired until the employee can return to work. Committee agreed by consensus for Arlene to hire a temporary employee.

Arlene stated that the new HTE Financial System is coming along fine.

A discussion regarding how county bids are awarded was held. Legislator Smith asked why more bids were not given to local people. Arlene explained the bid process to the committee. She asked that Legislator Smith give information to her regarding how bids were awarded in the City of Kingston.

II. BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Commissioners Turco and Castiglione presented the agenda.

Chairman Gerentine introduced new Commissioner Thomas Turco.

The Ulster County Board of Elections will be the first in the state to do imaging. N.T.S. will install and train employees in the process on June 30th.

All ten high schools conducted student registrations. 676 students were registered. Absentee ballot applications are being sent to students who will be away at school or in the military in the fall.

N.Y.S. Elections Commissioners' Association Conference will be held in Alexandria Bay June 23-25 1997. Both commissioners will attend. Harry Castiglione will be installed as President. This conference was not budgeted, however, due to the fact that Commissioner Castiglione will be installed as president of the Association, and Commissioner Turco is new to this position, funds will be transferred to allow them both to attend.

Dates of filing for designating petitions are July 7-10, 1997.

There were 3,120 new registration this year.

Commissioner Castiglione informed the committee the State Assembly and Senate have passed the bill to change voting hours of primary elections to noon to 9:00 p.m.

III. INSURANCE

Chairman Gerentine informed the committee that Bonnie Szpulecki has been appointed Acting Insurance Officer.

Bonnie up-dated the committee on the workers compensation case involving the four fire districts that withdrew from the County's Plan. The County issued a letter to the fire districts stating the amount each owed and asked that a payment schedule be worked out. The districts responded by saying they would not pay, and the county owed them money. All four districts are refusing to pay.

The Insurance Dept is looking for different ways to reduce the cost of workers comp for fire districts. The Insurance Department contacted brokers for quotes on workers comp for fire districts and were advised by the County Attorney that we are unable to divide segments of workers comp into fire, governmental, school, so we are not able to look into that direction anymore. We were able for the upcoming year to reduce workers comp approximately 7-10%. This reduction is based on this years figures and claims. New notices will be sent out by August 1st.

IV. PLANNING

Herb Hekler presented the agenda.

Herb introduced a resolution to transfer funds in the amount

of \$4500.00 from A45901400800000 (fuel line) to A459011807 (part time line) to replenish funds depleted through unanticipated part time driver services needed. Moved by Legislator Busick, seconded by Legislator Bertone. After discussion unanimously carried. (Legislators Gerentine, Roberti, Busick, Cummings, Every, Wilkins, Bertone, Magarelli, Smith) all in favor.

Chairman Gerentine received a request for buses from the sponsors of the Rosendale Street Festival. Herb has sent a copy of the guidelines to them and asked that a letter be sent to the county from the Town of Rosendale. Legislator Kelly moved that Ulster County Rural Transportation provide four buses to the Town of Rosendale for their Street Festival in August. Seconded by Legislator Every. After discussion Unanimously carried. (Legislators Gerentine, Roberti, Busick, Cummings, Every, Wilkins, Bertone, Magarelli, Smith) all in favor.)

A request was received from the City of Kingston asking Ulster County Rural Transportation to provide buses June 28th & 29th for the city's Fourth of July Celebration. They stated a letter was sent to Chairman Alfonso in February asking for the buses, however, it was never received by Chairman Alfonso or presented to this committee. After discussion Legislator Smith moved that an exception be made one time and the City of Kingston be given buses June 28th and 29th, seconded by Legislator Bertone. Unanimously carried. (Legislators Gerentine, Roberti, Busick, Cummings, Every, Wilkins, Bertone, Magarelli, Smith all in favor).

Due to the resignation of the Administrative Assistant in his office, Herb presented a "Request to fill Vacancy". He is downgrading the position two grades, to Administrative Aide, Committee approved by consensus.

Legislator Magarelli asked what the payout would be for Election Commisisoner Savago. Chairman Gerentine stated a copy of that resolution was not received. The matter should be taken up with the Personnel Dept. to see if the amounts are correct.

All business being completed Legislator Bertone moved and Legislator Magarelli seconded that meeting be adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Gerentine
Chairman

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