

Public Works & Capital Projects Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: September 3, 2015, 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Dean Fabiano
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators: Peter Loughran, Lynn Archer, Manna Greene, Kevin Roberts, Legislative Chairman John Parete
EXCUSED: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislative Chairman John Parete, Legislative Minority Leader Kenneth Ronk, Commissioner Department of Public Works Susan Plonski

Chairman Dean Fabiano called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.
Legislator Archer left the meeting at 6:45 PM due to a prior commitment.

Motion No. 1 Resolved to Approve Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2015
Motion Made By: Legislator Kevin Roberts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Peter Loughran
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Fabiano, Loughran, Archer, Greene, Roberts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

RESOLUTIONS

Motion No. 2 Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 331
Text of Motion: Establishing A Public Parking Lot Policy For the Ulster County Office Building
Motion Made By: Legislator Dean Fabiano for discussion
Motion Seconded By: Legislator John Parete

Discussion:

Chairman Parete, sponsor of this resolution conveyed he supports a parking lot policy for the Ulster County Office Building, noting the shortage of public parking spaces at the county building and all of uptown, the recent loss of two spaces to electric vehicle charging, lower paid employees deserve equality, and opening up the public lot to paying customers would increase revenue. The Chairman also noted he has not used his reserved space throughout his entire Chairmanship and that he raffles his space off to county employees every two weeks. Reserved parking also sends a negative message – poor public relations. People who come to the county building to do business need parking, otherwise we risk losing local business revenue to Albany mail-ins. In summary the Chairman feels parking should be first come, first serve.

Legislator Archer expressed this is an operational procedure not policy. Also freeing up the extra spaces for paying customers would reduce spaces for employees and exasperate the problem further.

Legislator Loughran feels the shortage of parking is the crux of the matter and freeing up a few additional spaces will not alleviate the problem. He recommends putting a resolution in for building additional parking.

Legislator Ronk stated it is a policy decision and is still weighing the need for the creation of a policy.

Chairman Fabiano expressed employees running the county need the flexibility to come and go when conducting county business.

Legislator Roberts respects and appreciates Chairman Parete’s opinion, noting people are thinking and talking about the issue, he accomplished what he needed to do, and thanked the Chairman for his efforts.

Committee discussion ensued as to reserved spaces for other county locations, and drilling down to the issue at hand.

Chairman Dean Fabiano entertained a motion to move the resolution, whereas no motion/action was made. This resolution will go before this committee again next month.

- Motion Made By:** -
- Motion Seconded By:** -
- Voting In Favor:** -
- Voting Against:** -
- No. of Votes in Favor:** -
- No. of Votes Against:** -
- Disposition:** No Action Taken

Motion No. 3 Resolve To Approve Resolution No. 332

Text of Motion: Establishing A Policy For Use Of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations On Ulster County Property

Motion Made By: Legislator Kevin Roberts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Dean Fabiano

Discussion: Chairman Fabiano called upon Legislator Ken Ronk, co-sponsor of this resolution to convey his thoughts to the committee as to the need for establishing a policy. Legislator Ronk welcomed questions/concerns from the committee. Chairman Fabiano feels the need for a policy to govern the charging stations. Legislator Loughran felt this may inhibit the use of electric vehicles. Legislator Archer concurred with Legislator Loughran and went a step further stating if you're trying to promote electric car usage, allowing time to capture feed-back data will achieve a more comprehensive understanding of the issues to create a policy.

Legislator Ronk expressed a policy usually precedes the use of something and then it's built upon. He also feels the policy would encourage more usage by limiting how long someone could utilize the charging station - allowing more people the opportunity to use it. Legislator Ronk also noted the policy states the county may charge a fee down the road, and strongly expressed the county at present is giving an illegal gift to a certain subset of the population.

Legislator Greene concurs with Legislator Archer's views waiting on experience and data collection. For 45 cents of electrical energy Legislator Greene realizes 15 miles with her vehicle. If the county were to charge for usage, an additional processing fee would be charged to the County canceling out the potential revenue or costing the County more than the fee collected for the use of the charging station. Legislator Greene shared her experience using one of the charging stations at SUNY New Paltz, where a fee was imposed based on how long the car was plugged into the unit and remained in the parking space – not how long it took to charge the vehicle – even though there were two charging stations, and the other one was not in use.

Legislator Roberts thanked the sponsors for bringing this legislation forward. He expressed it's a good plan that may need some tweaking down the road, however supports the need for a policy.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Fabiano, Parete, Roberts

Voting Against: Legislators Archer, Greene, Loughran

No. of Votes in Favor: 3

No. of Votes Against: 3

Disposition: Defeated

Motion No. 4 Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 349

Text of Motion: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into a Lease Agreement With Pine Professional Center For Offices Of U.C. Probation – Department Of Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Motion Made By: Legislator Lynn Archer for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Peter Loughran

Discussion: Sue Plonski explained this three year contract with Pine Professional Center in New Paltz for use by the Ulster County Probation Dept., is a renewal lease agreement – no increase, same cost structure and the landlord provides everything. The contract runs 11/1/2015 through 10/31/2018.

Motion Made By: Legislator Peter Loughran

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Manna Greene

Voting In Favor: Legislators Fabiano, Archer, Greene, Loughran, Roberts, Parete

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 5 Resolve To Approve Resolution No. 350

Text of Motion: Authorizing The Commissioner Of Public Works To Execute Inter-Municipal Agreements With Various Municipalities For The Purpose Of Shared Services – Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Motion Made By: Legislator Peter Loughran for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lynn Archer

Discussion: Sue Plonski explained this resolution formalizes a shared service Inter-Municipal Agreement to share machinery, tools and/or equipment with or without operators with the understanding that materials and / or supplies will be replaced at the borrower’s earliest opportunity. DPW will maintain an equipment/material loan record for each transaction signed off by the U.C. DPW Commissioner and the Municipality Highway Department employee.

Although Legislator Greene fully supports shared services, she struggled with the idea of authorizing the U.C. DPW Commissioner to sign off on a shared service agreement without prior approval of the Legislature. Legislator Greene noted she needed more time to understand the implications of bypassing legislative approval. Sue Plonski noted previous shared services were not signed off by the Chairman and didn’t provide county protection as to who was responsible if

something went wrong on a job. Sue Plonski tried to reassure Leg. Greene this agreement is made pursuant to Article 5-G of the New York General Municipal Law, and Sections 102, 133-a, and 135 of New York Highway Law.

Legislator Archer confirmed that municipalities insurance would cover any damages to county equipment. Legislator's Archer and Greene mulled over the idea of amending the resolution to include reporting back to the Legislature quarterly or semi-annually, however after further discussion the committee agreed to receive inter-municipal activity updates going forward through the Public Works Committee.

Chairman Fabiano said this agreement protects both parties, whereas working together keeps the costs down and best serves the taxpayers.

Legislator Greene may want to amend the resolution on the floor, if so she will be in touch with the Clerk of the Legislature.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Fabiano, Archer, Greene, Loughran, Roberts, Parete,
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 6 Resolve To Approve Resolution No. 354

Text of Motion: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2015 (A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 1 Of 1996 (A Local Law To Prohibit Soliciting, Peddling Or Vending On Any County Owned Property), To Allow For Use Of County Owned And Leased Building Space By Veterans And Disabled Members Of Ulster County To Be Held On Wednesday, October 14, 2015 At 6:15PM

Motion Made By: Legislator Peter Loughran for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Dean Fabiano

Discussion: Note, Legislator Archer left at 6:45 PM due to a prior commitment. No other discussion.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Fabiano, Greene, Loughran, Roberts, Parete,
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 5 Resolve To Approve Resolution No. 355

Text of Motion: Establishing A Policy For Use Of County Owned And Leased Building Space By Veterans And Disabled Members Of Ulster County

Motion Made By: Legislator Peter Loughran for discussion
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Kevin Roberts
Discussion: Legislator Roberts expressed this is a very wise move and long time coming.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Fabiano, Greene, Loughran, Roberts, Parete,
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Old / New Business

New Business:

Legislator Kevin Roberts shared a concern from Plattekill Councilperson Cynthia Delgado, regarding vegetation overgrowth in Plattekill, on Ardonia Road (county) where it intersects at 44/55 (state). Committee discussion ensued as to whether the county or state would maintain the area.

Note: Commissioner Plonski reported back the next day via email stating: NYS DOT is the responsible party and the Kingston office has been notified of the problem.

Also, Chairman Fabiano has a constituent concern on Krumville Road. DPW has previously tried to address the concern at this location (twice) and apparently was not able to produce satisfactory results without defeating the purpose of the catch basin. Sue Plonski stated once manpower is available, the section Supervisor for that area will try again to raise the surface, while still allowing proper functioning of the structure.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Loughran and seconded by Legislator Greene, all were in favor, and Chairman Fabiano declared the meeting duly adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Dated the 21st of September, 2015
Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff

Minutes Approved on: October 8, 2015