

**Energy & Environment Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: November 1, 2017 at 6:30
LOCATION: Howard C. St. John Business Resource Seminar Room,
SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Richard Parete
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn A. Tantillo, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Tracey Bartels, Jonathan Heppner and Mary Wawro
ABSENT: Legislator Ronald Lapp, Jr.
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Kenneth Crannell, Deputy County Executive; Tim Rose, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA).

Chairman Parete called the meeting to order at 6:32 and lead the pledge of allegiance. He asked for a moment of silence to remember the late Dave Sheely, former Marbletown Highway Supervisor and several members shared fond memories of him.

Motion No. 1: To Approve the Minutes of October 11, 2017 as amended

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Heppner

Discussion: Legislator asked for the minutes to be amended to clarify the report on compliance with the Ulster County Polystyrene Ban.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Parete, Bartels, Heppner and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved as amended.

Motion No.2: To approve **Resolution No. 440** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency To Complete The Ulster County Municipal Compost Expansion Project

Resolution Summary: This resolution would authorize the Chairman to sign a contract with the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency to facilitate the expansion of the municipal composting operations

Motion By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Discussion: Mr. Crannell reported that this is the culmination of a 4 year effort to expand the footprint of the composting operation, purchase equipment and make improvements to the composting operation. He detailed potential commercial organic waste sources and plans to work with haulers to develop an opportunity for routes.

Mr. Rose thanked the County Executive and the Legislature for working with them to facilitate this expansion. The UCRRA would not be eligible for the grant from the Climate Smart Communities Program but working with Ulster County the UCRRA was able to secure the funding.

Legislator Bartels asked if having a Climate Smart Committee was instrumental in Ulster County being eligible for the Climate Smart Communities Program.

Mr. Crannell explained that Ulster County is the only county in the state that has a Bronze Level Environmental ranking and the county's Climate Smart Committee is one of many things Ulster County has done to achieve this ranking.

The committee had a brief discussion about creating food waste for composting and the potential business opportunities this creates.

Mr. Rose reported that by the year 2021 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is expected to require large food waste generators to compost their waste.

Voting In Favor: Legislators R. Parete, Bartels, Heppner and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No.2: To approve Resolution No. 441 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Climate Change Mitigation Easement With The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency To Complete The Ulster County Municipal Compost Expansion Project

Resolution Summary: This resolution would authorize the Chairman to execute a Climate Change Mitigation Easement with the UCRRA

Motion By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Heppner

Discussion: NYSDEC recently created a Climate Change Mitigation Easement that would give a municipality access to private property in order to access a project to mitigate climate change such as a solar farm or a composting project. This easement will provide Ulster County access to the UCRRA composting project site. It is the first such easement being proposed in the state.

Voting In Favor: Legislators R. Parete, Bartels, Heppner and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

The members discussed moving the December meeting to the County Office Building in Kingston to facilitate an opportunity for members to drive one of the county's new electric vehicles. Mr. Crannell he would make arrangements for the vehicle to be available.

Mr. Rose reported on the progress of the Corner Stone study on the feasibility of a regional solid waste authority shared by Green, Ulster and Sullivan Counties (GUS). A draft will be presented to the UCRRA at the November 21, 2017 UCRRA Board meeting scheduled for 12:30 pm. He anticipates a final report to present to all three county legislatures around February of 2018.

Legislator Bartels wanted to create a list of items the committee discussed as a yearend wrap up. She asked members to send ideas to the committee clerk to be discussed at the December meeting.

Chairman Parete asked if there was any other business, hearing none

Motion to Adjourn

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Heppner

No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 7: 10 pm

Respectfully submitted: Fawn Tantillo, Deputy Clerk
Minutes Approved December 11, 2017