

**Energy & Environment Committee
Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: July 9, 2018; 6:00
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Mary Wawro
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn A. Tantillo, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Tracey Bartels, Manna Jo Greene (left 7:20), Joseph Maloney and Brian Woltman
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Kathy Nolan and Laura Petit; Ray Miller, New Paltz; Cindy Lanzetta and Kathy O'Connor, Mid-Hudson League of Women Voters; Amy Rosmarin, Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)

Chairman Wawro called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion No. 1: To Approve the Minutes June 7, 2018

Motion Made By: Legislator Woltman
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Greene

Discussion: None

Voting in Favor: Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 2: To discuss Resolution No. 265 - Requesting That The New York State Assembly And New York State Senate Introduce Legislation Amending New York Public Authorities Law Article 8, Title 13 G, Section 2050-t (3) To Include Recycling Material

Resolution Summary: This resolution would request that New York State gives Ulster County the authority to manage recycling materials through an update to the original legislation that enabled Ulster County to create the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency.

Motion By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Woltman

Discussion: Legislator Bartels, sponsor of the resolution noted that the State Legislature was in recess until January and requested no action be taken to allow time to meet with Mayors and Town Supervisors and address their concerns.

Legislator Woltman suggested adding specific language to identify what specific recyclable items the county would consider regulating to alleviate the concerns of municipal leaders.

Legislator Bartels reminded the committee of Kingston Mayor Noble's comment that "we are all in this together" and was confident that a conversation municipal leaders would be a good first step.

Legislator Petit pointed out that Ulster County has always been a leader in recycling and noted the early efforts of Legislator Greene that started Ulster County down that path. She suggested that Ulster County should not use the same language that has been adopted for other counties.

Disposition: No Action Taken

Motion No. 3: To discuss Resolution No. 279 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 19 Of 2018, A Local Law Amending Styrofoam Law, To Be Held On Tuesday, August 7, 2018 At 6:05 PM

Resolution Summary: This resolution would set a date and time for a public hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 19 of 2018

Motion By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Discussion: Chairman Wawro relayed a message from Legislative Chairman Ronk who sent his regrets that he could not attend this meeting due to a work scheduling conflict.

Several legislators expressed a desire to hear from Chairman Ronk directly on the reasons for the amendments to this local law before making any decisions on it.

Legislator Maloney said he was ready to vote against it now and did not feel the amendments were necessary or prudent.

Legislator Woltman felt that it is good practice to review local laws periodically to insure they are not creating unintentional hardships for businesses. He suggested inviting representative of the business community to a meeting to hear from them first hand.

A brief discussion ensued regarding issues with that idea and the "growing pains" associated with the roll out of any new regulation.

Legislator Bartels felt it would be problematic to invite in businesses who may or may not be struggling to comply with new regulations. She suggested it might be useful to review the applications for exemptions and/or hardships to see what was exemptions were granted or denied.

Deputy Executive Crannell discussed some of the details of businesses that were non-compliant and facing fines.

Disposition: No Action Taken

Motion No. 4: To approve Resolution No. 283 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2018, A Local Law Promoting The Use Of Reusable Bags And Regulating The Use Of Plastic Carryout Bags And Recyclable Paper Carryout Bags

Resolution Summary: This Resolution would approve and implement Proposed Local Law No. 10 of 2018.

Motion By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Discussion: Legislator Bartels shared concerns of the County Executive’s staff regarding the proposed effective date and the desire to implement an educational component before enacting the law. A discussion ensued.

The committee agreed to approve the resolution with the understand that the effective date may be amended on the floor.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 5: To approve Resolution No. 310 - Amending Capital Project No. 488, Installation Of Shoulders Along Route 299, Towns Of New Paltz And Gardiner – Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) Not On The State Highway System – Amending The 2018 – 2023 Capital Improvement Program And Declaration Of Intent To Serve As Lead Agency Under SEQRA -Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Resolution Summary: This resolution would amend Capital Project No. 488 to add additional funding and declare Ulster County’s intent to serve a lead agency under SEQRA.

Motion By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Greene

Discussion: Legislator Bartels noted how dangerous this road was and what an important improvement this project was.

Deputy Executive Crannell reminded the committee about other safety features that the county has undertaken along this stretch of highway including new stop signs. He reported that this has been a multi-year project and will require more than 70 “takings” to accomplish.

Legislator Bartels suggested that the county should develop a protocol for any property along county roads that is sold for taxes and amend the deeds to indicate a wider county right of way.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 6: To approve Resolution No. 316 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With Bluestone Solar, LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487

Resolution Summary: This resolution would approve a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for a solar project in the Town of Kingston under RPTL Section 487 exemption for certain energy systems.

Motion By: Legislator Woltman
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Deputy County Executive Crannell explained this new PILOT program and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) guidelines.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Old Business:

Climate Smart Committee: Legislator Greene gave a report on the Green Business Challenge. The initial training in May was attended by 45 people and June launch with the Chamber of Commerce was attended by more than 80 people and 16 vendors offering “green” services. Because the program received positive media coverage, businesses and volunteers are calling for more information.

At the launch breakfast case studies were presented by several local businesses including Ryan Insurance, Mohonk and Frost Valley. These businesses and several others were recognized as Green Business Leaders and presented with Certificates of Appreciation from the County.

New Business:

NYSDEC Air Emissions – Ms. Rosemarin discussed the need for changes in the NYSDEC oversight of air emissions and recommendations to develop comprehensive oversight.

The committee discussed a memorizing letter that was prepared and circulate earlier in the month to all legislators regarding these recommendations.

UCRRA Recycling. Legislator Maloney expressed concern regarding the UCRRA supplementing the cost of recycling especially single stream recycling. The committee had a brief discussion and asked to add an agenda item to the August meeting regarding reseating the Recycling Oversight Committee.

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

Motion to Adjourn

Motion Made By:	Legislator Woltman
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Maloney
No. of Votes in Favor:	4
No. of Votes Against:	0
Time:	7:45 pm
Respectfully submitted:	Fawn Tantillo, Deputy Clerk
Minutes Approved	August 2, 2018