

**Laws & Rules, Governmental Services Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** November 13, 2017 – 6:30 PM  
**LOCATION:** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairman Roberts  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Rodriguez and Ronk  
**ABSENT:** Legislators Belfiglio & Loughran  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislative Counsel Barnett, Jennifer Clark – UC Attorney’s Office, Cindy Bell & Margaret Sellers – League of Women Voters

Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

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**Motion No. 1:** Moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the October 16, 2017 meeting

**Motion By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Ronk

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts, Rodriguez & Ronk

**Voting Against:** None

**Votes in Favor:** 6

**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Minutes are **APPROVED**

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Resolutions for the November 14, 2017 Session of the Legislature

**Resolution No. 281** – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 5 Of 2017, The Ulster County Comprehensive Campaign Finance Reform and Accountability Law, To Be Held On Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:00 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution sets a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:00 PM for the purpose of hearing public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2017.

**Motion No. 2:** Moved **Resolution No. 281 FOR DISCUSSION**

**Motion By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Ronk

**Discussion:**

Legislator R. Parete said he thought the committee had agreed to have the new Legislative body consider the law in 2018. Chairman Ronk advised the members that, since the law had not been withdrawn by the sponsor, the way to facilitate that would be to defeat it in committee.

**Motion No. 3:**                **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 281**  
**Motion By:**                Legislator Rodriguez  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Ronk

**Discussion:**

Legislator Donaldson expressed his support for the initiative but agreed that the law needed some work before being adopted.

**Voting In Favor:**        Legislators Donaldson, R. Parete & Rodriguez  
**Voting Against:**        Legislators Lopez, Roberts & Ronk  
**Votes in Favor:**        3  
**Votes Against:**        3  
**Disposition:**            **Resolution is DEFEATED**

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**Resolution No. 320:** Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 15 Of 2016, (A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter Section C-101A And The Ulster County Administrative Code Section A 30-2A, To Amend The Powers And Duties Of The Ulster County Human Rights Commission)

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 15 of 2017

**Resolution No. 321:** Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 16 Of 2016, (A Local Law Establishing A Comprehensive Ulster County Human Rights Law)

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2017

**Motion No. 4:**                **Moved to consider Resolution Nos. 320 & 321 AS A BLOCK**  
**Motion By:**                Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Discussion:**                None

**Voting In Favor:**        Legislators Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts, Rodriguez & Ronk  
**Voting Against:**        None  
**Votes in Favor:**        6  
**Votes Against:**        0  
**Disposition:**            **Resolution Nos. 320 & 321 are BLOCKED**

**Discussion:**

Legislator Rodriguez stated that it would be premature to move the two laws forward as the Human Rights Task Force was still meeting. Chairman Ronk advised the members that the Task Force had met twice and would meet again later in the week. He said they were making some good progress and advised the committee that the Task Force was in 100% agreement that all cases that are referred to the Human Rights Commission (HRC) should begin with mediation. The law will also include a requirement that HRC members take a 40-hour mediation course that is offered by the NYS Office of Court Administration. Legislator Donaldson expressed his support for providing compensation to the members for taking the course. Chairman Ronk stated that there was some disagreement within the Task Force as to whether an administrative law judge is necessary. He advised the members that Task Force is discussing whether an advocate position should be created to shepherd claimants through the process of filing a claim with the NYS HRC. The advocate would also be required to track cases and provide reports/statistics to the Legislature.

Legislator Donaldson asked Chairman Ronk to bring up his request that the members receive a stipend at the next Task Force meeting.

**Motion No. 5:** Moved TO POSTPONE Resolution Nos. 320 & 321  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts, Rodriguez & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution Nos. 320 & 321 are POSTPONED

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**Resolution No. 375:** Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 8 Of 2017, A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter, (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006), And Amending The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008), To Establish The Department Of Economic Development, To Be Held On Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:05 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution sets a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:05 PM for the purpose of hearing public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 8 of 2017.

**Motion No. 6:** Moved to ADOPT Resolution No 375  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Discussion:**

Chairman Ronk stated that the initiative was something that should be discussed by the new body. He added that the matter should be fully vetted and not rushed.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, R. Parete & Rodriguez  
**Voting Against:** Legislators Lopez, Roberts & Ronk  
**Votes in Favor:** 3  
**Votes Against:** 3  
**Disposition:** **Resolution is DEFEATED**

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**Resolution No. 393** – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 9 Of 2017, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 5 Of 1991 (A Local Law Adopting A Hotel And Motel Room Occupancy Tax) To Update The Tax Law’s Application To Short-term And Vacation Rentals, To Be Held On Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:10 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution sets a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:10 PM for the purpose of hearing public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 9 of 2017.

**Motion No. 7:** **Moved TO POSTPONE Resolution No. 393**  
**Motion By:** Legislator R. Parete  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Discussion:**

Legislator Donaldson said he felt the committee should move forward on the law. Legislator R. Parete stated that there was not enough time left in the year for the Legislature to hold a public hearing and then vote on the law.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, R. Parete, Rodriguez & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** Legislators Donaldson & Roberts  
**Votes in Favor:** 4  
**Votes Against:** 2  
**Disposition:** **Resolution is POSTPONED**

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**Resolution No. 438** – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2017, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 7 Of 2008 (A Local Law To Provide For An Exemption From Real Property Taxes For Real Property Owned By Veterans Who Rendered Military Service To The United States During The “Cold War”), To Be Held On Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:15 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution sets a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 At 6:15 PM for the purpose of hearing public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 10 of 2017.

**Motion No. 8:** **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 438**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts, Rodriguez & Ronk

**Voting Against:** None

**Votes in Favor:** 6

**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Resolution is ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 443** – Confirming Reappointment Of Member To The Ulster County Board Of Ethics

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution confirms the reappointment of Kenneth Hassett to the Ulster County Board of Ethics for a term commencing on January 1, 2018 and continuing through December 31, 2022.

**Motion No. 9:** Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 443

**Motion By:** Legislator R. Parete

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**Discussion:**

The members expressed their support of Mr. Hassett.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Lopez, R. Parete, Roberts, Rodriguez & Ronk

**Voting Against:** None

**Votes in Favor:** 6

**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Resolution is ADOPTED

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Chairman Roberts asked if there was any other business, hearing none.

**Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Lopez

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Rodriguez

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 6:45 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk

**Minutes Approved:** December 18, 2017