

Public Health and Social Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: October 6, 2014, 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig V. Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Craig Lopez, Chris Allen, Carl Belfiglio, Jeanette Provenzano
EXCUSED: Herbert Litts
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Erica Guerin Legislative Counsel, Ken Crannell Deputy County Executive, Tracy Steves County Attorney, Jonathan Engel County Attorney, Teresa M. Brundage LPN

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

MOTION NO. 1 To Approve the Minutes of September 8, 2014
Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio
Voting Against: Legislator Provenzano abstained – excused from September meeting
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION NO. 2 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 367 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 14 of 2014

Text of Motion: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 14 of 2014 (A Local Law Entitles “The Ulster County Tobacco Free School Zone Law”) To Be Held On Tuesday, November 18, 2014 At 7:15 PM.

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion:

Deputy Executive Ken Crannell provided an overview of the proposed local law developed by the County Health Department in conjunction with the Tobacco Free Action Coalition. The intent and purpose of this local law is to protect adolescents from tobacco dependence, illnesses and premature death associated with tobacco use, whereas limiting their exposure by designating tobacco-free school zones. As well as instituting a county tobacco retail license program – free of charge to every applicant. The entire process will be instituted and enforced by the Ulster County Health Department at no additional cost to taxpayers. Civil penalties will apply – 1st violation, \$250, and no more than \$1000 for the third and each subsequent violation within a two (2) year period.

- 198 Retailers of tobacco products in Ulster County
- All 21 Retailers within the zone will be grandfathered
- Create a “tobacco free selling zone” 1000 feet from schools
- Yearly County License Requirement – free of charge
- Institute licensing program and enforcement through Ulster County Department of Health
- No additional county staffing required
- New Licenses will not be issued within the zone after 1-year.
- Tobacco Dispensary Location Analysis provided

Chairman Craig Lopez expressed concern of the added burden on businesses, and noted businesses owners are already regulated, licensed and fined through New York State. It appears to be a duplication of law.

Legislator Provenzano speculated state law may supersede county law, and also questioned if this type of licensing is done in other counties.

Legislator Carl Belfiglio felt this proposed local law won't have a broad effect as all the businesses within the tobacco free selling zone will be grandfathered in. However he would like to have the public weigh in.

Legislator Allen qualified the County Health Department oversees all regulation/enforcement and administrative hearings when necessary for this proposed local law. Ken Crannell concurred.

Counsel Guerin expressed concerns within the proposed local law, such as an amendment for the actual creation of the tobacco free zone – the proposed law would need to direct the department to create the zone. Also property line specifics – edge of school property vs. school building etc., would require clarification. Also the law is lacking an educational component. Other than a license requirement, a permanent location, and tracking who is out there, Counsel questioned what else the law can accomplish if it's not a revenue generating initiative.

45 minutes of committee discussion ensued - nuances of the law. Legislator Allen called the question.

Motion Made By: Legislator Allen
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio
Voting In Favor: Legislators Allen, Belfiglio, Provenzano
Voting Against: Lopez
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 1
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 3 Resolutions No. 371 October 21, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 371 – Establishing The Ulster County Coalition Against Narcotics

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio one of the sponsors of this resolution provided a brief overview of the UCAN think tank committee, and spoke to the heroin and opioid abuse in our county.

This resolution will create an official committee of 15 members. The committee may include elected officials, members of the mental health community, school officials, members of local fire departments, EMS, medical staff, members of the drug abuse treatment community, concerned members of the general public and any other organization with knowledge of opiate abuse.

The committee will have the ability to utilize legislative counsel if needed. The committee will be required to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the County Legislature within 6 months.

Chairman Lopez asked to have his name added to the resolution.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 4**Resolutions No. 375 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 375 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family of Woodstock, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Litts.

Discussion: October is Domestic Violence Month.

This resolution contract request will increase the number of Washbourne House domestic violence shelter bed days by five hundred seventy (570) due to unanticipated need. 51% Federal, 49% County. Four occupied beds per night have increased to 6-8 beds per night. Increased need is due to the increase length of stay, people seeking shelter, and possibly word getting out about the program.

Legislator's fully support this domestic women and men violence shelter program.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 5**Resolutions No. 376 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 376 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Executive Process Services LLC – Department Of Social Services

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion: This resolution is for the County's DSS Child Support Collection Unit and Legal Unit. The company Executive Process Service LLC was the lowest bidder. This is a different company than from last month. Last bid was in 2011. This contract doesn't require annual bidding. The county can choose to put out to bid – professional services. Service contract starts November 1, 2014 and ends

October 31, 2015. The county can opt for two (2) additional one (1) year periods at the same terms, prices, and conditions.

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano made the motion for committee to vote contingent on the Ways and Means Committee receiving figures prior to Session.

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

New Business

Legislator Provenzano is the sponsor of Resolution No. 369 – Amending The Indigent Veteran Burial Policy To Equalize The Reimbursement Rates For Burial And Cremation Services.

Leg. Provenzano expressed the resolution should have come before the Health Committee being a health issue. The reimbursement rates if passed will be equal for both burial and/or full cremation services interment. The expense shall not exceed \$3100.00 for full body burial or cremation with services of an adult, \$2500.00 for cremation without services of an adult or full body burial or cremation with services of a child under age 7, with exceptions made on a case by case basis for extenuating circumstances such as oversized and winter burials.

All committee members were in support of this resolution.

Ken Crannell noted additional funds were also added to the 2015 budget to maintain the New Paltz cemetery.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Allen and seconded by Legislator Belfiglio, all were in favor, and Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Dated the 28th Day of October, 2014

Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee

Minutes Approved on: November 3, 2014