

Creating Standing Committees For The Year 2006

Chairman Donaldson and Legislators Provenzano and R.S. Parete offer the following:

WHEREAS, Section 154 of County Law of the State of New York provides that the Ulster County Legislature may create standing committees for the purpose of aiding and assisting the Legislature in the transaction of its business, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned State Law requires that “any local law or resolution creating any such committee shall specify the powers, duties and number of its members”, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County of Ulster to formally create standing committees for the purpose of aiding and assisting the Ulster County Legislature in the transaction of its business, and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature, David B. Donaldson, that Standing Committees as designated for the year 2005 be renamed, reorganized and replaced in order to promote better legislative efficiency and a more cohesive and organized flow of legislative and public participation.

RESOLVED, that all standing committees for the year 2005 are hereby dissolved and replaced with the following committees as set forth and described below:

Administrative Services Committee

To be responsible for the internal departmental services, including the offices of Purchasing/Central Services, Insurance and Safety. Further jurisdiction includes general public services including the offices of Real Property Tax Service Agency, Board of Elections, and Information Services.

Arts, Education, [Tourism,] and Community Relations Committee

To be responsible for all educational, cultural and tourism activities, including but not limited to, the Ulster County Community College, Ulster County Tourism, Ulster Arts Alliance, County Historian, Ulster County Libraries and Cooperative Extension and to oversee the Office for the Aging, [and] the Veterans= Service Agency, [~~and~~
~~Youth Bureau~~].

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Criminal Justice and Safety Committee

To be responsible for all phases of criminal justice and the court system within the County, as well as the related functions and departments, including the Sheriff's Department, Alternative Sentencing Program, Probation, District Attorney, Public Defender, all the Courts, Community Corrections, Stop DWI, Consumer Fraud and Weights and Measures. Also to be responsible for the activities of the Fire Coordinator's Office/Civil Defense and the Traffic Safety Board, to be the liaison with the Arson Task Force and Emergency Management Services.

Economic Development, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee

To be responsible for all departments and intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies responsible for the promotion of industry and commerce, overall economic development and business promotion of Ulster County, including Planning Department, Agricultural Advisory/Farmland Protection Board, Transportation, Ulster County Economic Development Agency, Industrial Development Agency, Hudson Valley Regional Council, Housing Consortium and the various Chambers of Commerce in Ulster County.

Efficiency, Reform and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

To be responsible for promoting efficiency and reform in County Government by examining and developing alternatives to present methods of operation. Other responsibilities include the Ethics Board and charter revision while also acting as a liaison to other Governments.

Environmental Committee

To be responsible for the conservation or use of land, water and air within the scope of the authority of the County Legislature, including but not limited to the activities of the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, Environmental Management Council, Soil and Water Conservation District, Forest Practice Board, and Agricultural Advisory Board.

Health Committee

To be responsible for all matters involving Public Health and those areas of health under the jurisdiction of the Public Health Department along with all matters pertaining to the Golden Hill Health Care Center. To further be responsible for all Mental Health activities as they affect the County, including but not limited to the Mental Health department and its contract agencies and liaison with the Community Service Board.

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Human Services Committee

To be responsible for all matters involving the Social Services Department, [Youth Bureau] and Coordinated Children's Program along with the Human Rights Commission.

Labor Relations and Negotiation Committee

To be responsible for the negotiating of all labor and management contracts between the County and its individual unions along with promoting better relations with labor outside the County government.

Personnel Committee

To be responsible for all personnel matters in the County, including but not limited to Labor Management Relations, Employee Benefits Administration, matters of reclassification and the abolishment of positions. Additionally responsible for the operations of the Personnel Office and the Office of Employment and Training. All resolutions concerning personnel changes, additions, or deletions must obtain the Personnel Committee approval prior to submittal to the Legislature for consideration.

Public Works Committee

To be responsible for all matters relating to County bridges and highways, including maintenance, management and construction. To be responsible for overseeing all capital construction projects, buildings, park and all matters regarding construction, management, maintenance and control of all county facilities, owned or leased. To oversee the Public Works Administration which is responsible for providing financial record keeping, budgetary and capital projects accounting services for both Highway and Bridges and Buildings & Grounds in addition to serving as the sole agency through which Highway & Bridges functions financially and administratively

Ways and Means Committee

To be responsible for all budgetary and financial matters of the County and the oversight of the County Administrator's office in its budgetary and financial roles along with Auditing, County Clerk, and functions of the County Treasurer. Further, to be responsible for mandated services review and recommendations to State and Federal Authorities, and to make specific financial recommendations pertaining to Ulster County Contract Agencies. Also to review and maintain the Rules of Legislature and to approve all resolutions with financial impacts to the county and all late resolutions, considering lateness and content prior to submittal to the Legislature.

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that each of the standing committees set forth herein and above shall consist of seven to nine members, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the delegation of any of the powers, duties or responsibilities of the County Legislature or any officer thereof except as otherwise expressly authorized by law,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Every and Felicello)

Legislator Zimet motioned, seconded by Legislator R.S. Parete to amend the resolution to include "Tourism" in the title of the Arts, Education and Community Relations Committee and to move the "Youth Bureau" to the Human Services Committee, as indicated in [] and double strikethrough's.

MOTION ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Every and Felicello)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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