

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Governmental Services & Administration Committee

DATE: November 14, 2011

TIME: 5:30 PM

PLACE: **Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency**
999 Flatbush Road
Kingston, New York

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Kevin A. Roberts, Legislators Carl Belfiglio, Dean Fabiano, Kenneth Ronk (arr. 6:03 PM), Hector Rodriguez, and Robert Parete (arr. 6:20 PM)

LEGISLATORS ABSENT: Legislator Michael Madsen

OTHERS PRESENT: Legislator Terry Bernardo
Legislator Mary Beth Maio
Carl Chipman, Supervisor, Town of Rochester
Sylvia Wohlfahrt, Director, Department of Information Services
Tim Rose, Executive Director, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency
Victor J. Melville, LWV-Observer Corp
Emilie Hauser, LWV, Mid-Hudson Region Member
Karen L. Binder, Clerk of the Legislature, Recording

1. Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Legislator Belfiglio motioned, seconded by Legislator Rodriguez to approve the minutes from October 17, 2011. All in favor.

3. Chairman Roberts took the following resolution out of order.

Resolution: Setting A Public Hearing On Introductory Local Law No. 3 Of 2011 (A Local Law Of The County Of Ulster, New York Protecting Animals From Abuse By Establishing A Registry For Animal Abusers), To Be Held On Tuesday, November 29, 2011 At 7:05 PM

Legislator Terry Bernardo presented Introductory Local Law No. 3 of 2011 (A Local Law Of The County Of Ulster, New York, Protecting Animals From Abuse By Establishing A Registry For Animal Abusers). She explained that animal cruelty is a serious problem resulting in the abuse of thousands of animals each year and although the State of New York has criminalized the cruel treatment of animals, animal abuse and cruelty continues to occur in Ulster County and throughout New York State. She believes it is in the best interests of the residents of Ulster County and their animals that an online registry be established identifying individuals residing in Ulster County convicted of animal abuse crimes that will prevent these individuals convicted of animal cruelty from adopting, purchasing, or otherwise obtaining animals from any animal shelter, pet seller, or other person or entity involved in the exchange of animals by adoption, sale, or other means. She further said that this is a good law and in acknowledgement of a letter received from Legislator Brian Shapiro, who is the Executive Director of the Ulster County SPCA (see copy attached), she

feels the proposed local law could be changed to have the Sheriff's Office establish the registry. The UCSPCA does not wish to "establish and maintain a registry for such individuals in Ulster County."

Carl Chipman, Supervisor, Town of Rochester, also spoke to the committee regarding the proposed local law. He mentioned that Suffolk and Albany Counties along with other counties have already adopted this local law. He also feels that the Sheriff's Office could establish the registry. He spoke strongly regarding the people who have abused animals in the past and are likely to do so in the future; studies show that there is a near 100% recidivism rate for certain types of abuse such as animal hoarding. He continued that individuals who abuse animals are statistically more likely to commit violent acts against humans; there is a strong correlation that has been established linking individuals who abuse animals with incidents of domestic violence.

Legislator Rodriguez motioned, seconded by Legislator Fabiano to amend the proposed local law inserting "domestic" before animal in all relevant places, replacing the UCSPCA with the Ulster County Sheriff and changing "to" on page 3 to "shall." Motion approved 5 - 0.

Legislator Rodriguez motioned, seconded by Legislator Fabiano to approve the resolution to set a public hearing on the proposed local law, as amended. Motion approved 5 - 0.

4. Departments/Agencies

Chairman Roberts welcomed Sylvia Wohlfahrt, Information Services:

Legislator Belfiglio asked a number of questions regarding the agreement (L34-25) that appears on the Legislative Abstract for the November 15, 2011 meeting of the Legislature. The agreement is for a one year period for software, support, maintenance for Lotus Notes, email, domino server and multiple platforms. The agreement is riding off the NYS OGS agreement PT64366.

Sylvia Wohlfahrt provided a breakdown for the various items paid from the annual support contract in the amount of \$78,970.59. to Tailwind Associates. There was discussion about the expense for these services and other options that are available (Cloud, Google Apps). Ms. Wohlfahrt stated that within the next two years equipment will start to require replacement. IS will be looking at Cloud and procedure calls for an RFP. Ms. Wohlfahrt reminded everyone that there are many things that have to be taken into account - Lotus Notes allows documents to be dropped into document management.

Legislator Belfiglio said that this budget cycle alone is creating an \$8 million gap and believes that less expensive options need to be considered. He believes it is clear that certain departments are going to be privatized. Sylvia Wohlfahrt said she would defer this subject to the County Executive.

Emilie Hauser, League of Women Voters:

She invited all Legislators to attend the solid waste event on Wednesday, November 15, 2011 with CRREO at 3:00 PM, SUNY New Paltz. She stated that this will be a really valuable conference with input on private solid waste, reducing waste at the source, flow control in Oneida-Herkimer, parallel events in Dutchess and Ulster Counties, etc.

Tim Rose, Executive Director, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

The monthly tonnage reports will be emailed to all Committee members along with the Agenda for Board's meeting scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2011.

Tim Rose said that the volume has been up by several thousands of tons since Irene. There were questions and answers about deferring payments for the towns. FEMA requires that the towns pay and then get reimbursed.

Legislator Fabiano asked if there were any future meetings scheduled with Taylor Biomass Energy? Tim Rose answered that there were no meetings scheduled with Taylor at this time.

There was a brief discussion regarding the end of contracts, the haulers and flow control.

5. New Business

Chairman Roberts motioned to amend the 2012 proposed budget with the following amendment: RESOLVED, that the 2012 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows: Resource Recovery - Solid Waste Management Program - Budget Amount Recommendation \$1,595,304 - Change Amount to \$1,366,153 - Net Change (\$229,151). The Ulster County Executive's Budget was filed with the Resource Recovery Agency's proposed budget net service fee. After the 2012 Executive Budget was filed the Resource Recovery Agency adopted a budget with a lower net service fee. This difference should be used to offset the net service fee in 2013. Legislator Ronk seconded the motion. Amendment Approved: 4 - 1 (NOES: Legislator Rodriguez)

The Committee briefly discussed the proposed budgets for Consumer Affairs and the Sheriff's Office.

6. Late Resolutions

Resolution: Reappointing Member To The New York State Fish And Wildlife Management Board

There was no discussion on the resolution.

Legislator Rodriguez motioned, seconded by Legislator Ronk to approve the resolution.

Motion Approved: 6 - 0

Resolution: Supporting A Fair And Reasonable Contract For Benedictine Registered Nurses

There was no discussion on the resolution.

Legislator Ronk motioned, seconded by Legislator Rodriguez to approve the resolution.

Motion Approved: 4 - 2 (NOES: Legislators Belfiglio and Roberts)

Resolution: Proposal To Allocate Portions Of The New York City Land Acquisition Program Funds For Flood Mitigation Watershed Affairs

There was a brief discussion about climate change. Legislator Ronk motioned, seconded by Legislator Rodriguez to remove the second and fourth "WHEREAS" from the body of the resolution. Motion Approved: 6 - 0.

Legislator Ronk motioned, seconded by Legislator Rodriguez to move the resolution "as amended."
Motion Approved: 6 - 0.

7. New Business

The Committee members briefly discussed the following:

- Information Services Assessment
- Use of subpoena power
- New locations of Departments/Cornell Cooperative
- Meeting with the Charter Revision Commission
- Fees at the County Pool

8. Motion to adjourn:

Legislator Fabiano motioned, seconded by Legislator Rodriguez to adjourn. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Binder, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature