# ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

TERRY L. BERNARDO, Chairman JAMES F. MALONEY, Vice Chairman KENNETH J. RONK, JR., Majority Leader DAVID B. DONALDSON, Minority Leader VICTORIA A. FABELLA, Clerk



P.O. Box 1800 KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12402 Telephone: 845 340-3900 FAX: 845 340-3651

# MINUTES

# OCTOBER 22, 2013

# PUBLIC HEARING &

# **REGULAR MEETING**

# 7:00 PM

# **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:** 7:06 PM

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Led by Chairman Bernardo

# **MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION:**

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# FIRE EVACUATION PLAN

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED THAT LEGISLATORS AND ALL OTHERS MOVE AT LEAST ONE BLOCK AWAY FROM THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING IN ORDER NOT TO IMPEDE THE FIREFIGHTERS IN THEIR DUTIES

# **CELL PHONES**

Please silence cell phones and refrain from texting for the duration of Session.

# MICROPHONES

Please be reminded to use your microphones when speaking so that you are recorded for the official record.

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<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Present:	21	Absent: 2
			(Legislators Aiello and Fabiano)

**CALL OF THE PUBLIC HEARING BY CLERK:** Proposed Local Law No. 7 of 2013, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 2 Of 2006 And Amending Local Law No. 10 Of 2008, To Update The Term Of Membership To The Environmental Management Council

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no speakers at tonight's public hearing.

# PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED: 7:10 PM

**BIRTHDAYS:** District 19 Legislator Robert Parete – October 20<sup>th</sup> and District 14 Legislator Craig Lopez – October 30<sup>th</sup>.

MOTION TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

# **COMMUNICATIONS FROM:**

Chairman Terry L. Bernardo	Letter Re: Appointment to Ways &
	Means Committee (Leg. Ronk);
Wayne Harris, Ulster County Legislator District No. 9	Letter Re: Resignation from Ways &
	Means Committee;
St. Johns Episcopal Church, Kingston	Letter Re: Invitation to attend the 73 <sup>rd</sup>
	Annual Harvest Ham Dinner, October
	26 <sup>th</sup> , 2013;
Catskill Watershed Corporation	Notice of Preliminary Decisions from
	October Board Meeting;
Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency	Letter Re: 2014 Net Service Fee
	Schedule;
Towne, Ryan & Partners, PC	Letter Re: 2014 NYSAC Fall Seminar;
Bob Willis	God and Country Veteran's Event, Oct
	10-12, 2013;
State of New York, Department of Agriculture and Markets	Review and Determination of Ulster
	County Agriculture District 1 (Res.
	No. 116 of 2013);

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# **COMMUNICATIONS (continued)**

Central Hudson Gas & Electric	Energy Bulletin, September 2013
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation	Press Release Re: NYCDEP Consent Order;
State of New York Department of Taxation and Finance	Apportionment Rate for Town of Wawarsing;
Ulster County Fire Advisory Board	Establishing Equalization Rates; Letters Re: resignation of Timothy Darcy and requesting appointment of Augustine Passante;
Toski & Co., P.C.	Minutes of the September 25, 2013 Fire Advisory Board Meeting; Single Audit Report, NYS Department of Transportation – Dec. 31, 2012;
	Single Audit Report, County of Ulster – December 31, 2012; Independent Auditor's Report; Management Letter;
National Association of Counties (NACo)	County News, Vol. 45 No. 18;
New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC)	Copies of the Official Resolutions adopted by county delegates at the NYSAC 2013 Fall Conference;
Burton Gulnick, Jr., Commissioner of Finance	Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Year Ending Dec. 31, 2012; 2012 NYSDOT Single Audit Report by Toski & Co. PC;
Kevin A. Cahill, New York State Assemblyman 103 <sup>rd</sup> District	Letter Re: Communication with. County Executive Michael Hein regarding Safety Net and Sales Tax;
New York State Offices of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	Letter Re: Congregation Tifereth Yehuda Veyisroel Synagogue;
Beatrice Havranek, County Attorney	County Action Report, September, 2013;
League of Women Voters, Mid-Hudson Region	Email Re: Commentator and invitation to October 22 event on State ballot propositions;
Ken Lavery, Kerhonkson	Thank you note from the family of Ann M. Lavery;
Rip Van Winkle Counsel, Boy Scouts of America	2013 Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner and Auction;

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# **COMMUNICATIONS (continued):**

John J. Bonacic, New York State Senator	Acknowledgment of Receipt of Resolution No. 218 adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on July 22, 2013;
	Acknowledgment of Receipt of Resolution No. 234 adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on August 20, 2013;
Ulster County Fire Advisory Board	Invitation to a presentation about the aging radio & paging dispatch system at the Ulster Emergency 911 Center to be held at SUNY Ulster on October 24 <sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the UCCC College Lounge;
Ulster County Development Corporation Niagara County Legislature	Letter Re: GAMEX, LLC Letter Re: Resolution #IL-045-13 Requesting the State Of New York Establish a Residency Requirement in order to receive Welfare Benefits;
Michael Berg, Executive Committee Chair	Letter Re: Impacts of the HEARTH
Ulster County Housing Consortium	Act;
Office of the New York State Comptroller	Letter Re: Standard Workday and Reporting Resolutions
Northeast Center for Special Care	Letter Re: Community Access Program;
Pamela Kaman	Thank you note from the family of James Lee Kaman;
Elliot Auerbach, Ulster County Comptroller	Golden Hill Health Care Center Separation Payout; Letter Re: Selection of Independent Auditor
COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS:	

September 26, 2013, Budget Letter to the Legislature, 2014 Ulster County Executive Budget; 2014 Executive Personnel Listing;

# **COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS (continued):**

2014 Executive Budget Summary; 2014 Budget Message; Budgetary Transfers for r the month of September, 2013; 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Program with Cover Letter; Statement of Expenditures, Unencumbered Encumbrances & Balance & Statement of Revenues Earned & Unearned Balance as of September 30, 2013; Letter Re: copy of reply to Assemblyman Cahill's October 1, 2013 letter regarding Safety Net and Sales Tax.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Economic Development & Tourism Environmental, Energy & Technology Health & Personnel

Law Enforcement & Public Safety Laws & Rules, Governmental Service Legislative Programs, Education & Community Services Public Works & Capital Projects Social Services

Ways and Means

# DATE:

September 10, 2013 August 8, 2013 July 22, 2013 August 5, 2013 September 10, 2013 September 23, 2013 September 10, 2013 August 5, 2013 September 9, 2013 September 17, 2013 September 24, 2013

# **PRESENTATIONS:**

Chairman Terry Bernardo recognized the Legislative Members of the Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District Board, Majority Leader Kenneth Ronk and District 16 Legislator Tracey Bartels, to present a Pride of Ulster County Award to The Mount Academy Team in recognition of earning First Place in the 2013 North American Envirothon Event in Bozeman, Montana. Winning team members Royce Durgin and Kenneth Greenyer are in attendance tonight, with team coaches Neil and Martina Horning. Also present were current team members Dennis Barth and Janna Kleinsasser; Executive Director of UC Soil and Water, Gary Capella, and Soil and Water Board Members Leonard Tantillo (Chairman), Frederick VanNostrand and William Wilklow. Other members of the winning team were Carmen Maendel, Mailene Kleinsasser and Harmon Gattis.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were 20 speakers at tonight's meeting.

# 1. Steve Romine

Mr. Roman spoke in opposition to the use of Smart Meters stating that they emit Class 2 Carcinogens. Mr. Roman stated his intention to provide all members of the Legislature a copy of a documentary "Take Back Your Power" which addressed the Smart Meter issue.

2. <u>Raji Nevin</u> (Written Comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

Hello. My name is Raji Nevin and I live in Woodstock, NY.

I am someone who has been personally affected by a digital smart meter being placed on our home. I became very sick and eventually hospitalized by the effects of the 24/7 pulsing microwave EMF's emitted by the digital meter – which was installed directly on the other side of the wall from where I slept.

After two months of attempting to communicate with Central Hudson – in writing – certified, return receipt – explaining the urgency of the restoration of our analog meter – due to a household member becoming ill and then hospitalized – we did not receive a response – not even a phone call. Steve Romine, my significant other, decided he was not willing to risk the possibility of an even greater health issue arising, thus he acted in self defense and removed the digital smart meter from our home on May 16<sup>th</sup>. The digital meter was replaced with a safe, brand new, zeroed out and calibrated, General Electric analog meter. On May 20<sup>th</sup> (4 days after we installed the analog meter) Central Hudson came to our home – with no notice, no phone call – and cut our wires. We have been without electricity since that time.

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It should be noted that the Maine Supreme Judicial Court ruled last year that the Public Utilities Commission had NOT adequately addressed safety concerns about the utility company's installation of smart meters, which then prompted an investigation focused primarily on the health risks of these meters.

There is a mountain of scientific evidence that can certainly prove that the amounts of pulsing microwave radio frequency being emitted from these digital meters is well above what the safe limit is for human beings. Begin by simply reading the Bio Initiative Report of 2012, written by 21 PHD's and 10 MD;s from all around the world – and you will begin to understand the urgency behind our request to have the Smart Meter hearings held in the state of New York.

We are not necessarily advocating the abolishment of RF technologies, only the use of common sense and the implementation of the best practices in using these technologies in order to reduce human exposure and the high risk of health hazards. It should be noted that the entire country of Italy has opted for hard wiring their entire utility system, thereby eliminating health concerns.

We the people, urge you to please follow the remarkable common sense and courage of those who have followed a path that is safe and acceptable for all concerned. The first step would be to begin the education and investigation necessary by supporting our request for Smart Meter hearings.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this extremely important issue.

3. June Taggart (Written comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

October 22, 2013

Dear Ulster County Legislators,

I adamantly oppose the installation of any type of meter that emits microwave radiation, could start a fire, is not UL approved, and has been shown to create health and well-being problems to the inhabitants.

Numerous and well documented studies by physicians and scientists across the globe have shown terrible health problems caused by these meters. I contacted Central Hudson advising they do not have consent to come on my property and install their digital meter. Their reply insists they are not smart meters but digital meters. It IS a smart meter, and a little research shows they are classified as smart meters. Instruments measuring Radio frequencies on already installed digital meters indicate pulsing of high levels of microwave radiation thousands of times a day, not the often quoted twice a day.

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I am deeply disappointed that the proposed opt out legislation did not move forward in New York. Why should I be a guinea pig to this new, dangerous technology? Why should I risk getting cancer or having a stroke because this utility monopoly is deploying, for the sake of profit, a harmful device, and not even allowing an opt out?

I urge you to open hearings and obtain independent studies on health effects. Surely the precautionary principle is warranted in this case.

Thank you for your attention on this urgent issue.

June Taggart Woodstock, NY

4. <u>Michele Hertz</u> (Written comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

My name is Michele Hertz. I live in Accord and I am the founder of Stop Smart Meters NY.

Four years ago, I was injured by the radiation emissions from "smart meters".

Since that time, I have been documenting, researching and reporting on the radiation problems with these meters.

Electric, water and gas utility providers began installing "smart meters" on homes, schools and businesses in Ulster County several years ago, remarkably without ever assessing their impact on customers' health and safety.

Because these meters are now adversely affecting the health of Ulster County residents, we believe they warrant the Ulster County Legislature's scrutiny.

Generally, "smart meters" are capable of measuring, recording and sending detailed data from a customer's home to a utility utilizing one- or two-way communication.

Each meter emits radiofrequency radiation that extends inside and outside the building on which it is installed.

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Dr. David O. Carpenter, Director of the Institute of Health and Environment at the University of Albany's School of Public Health, warns that neither the utilities that are installing smart meters nor the companies that manufacture them have ever done any studies to determine whether they are safe.

This is particularly troubling, because these meters subject people in the buildings where they are installed to constant and cumulative radiation exposure.

Regrettably, the adverse consequences of this radiation exposure are confirmed by the experiences of many Ulster County residents, who have been forced to have these meters on their homes despite their objections.

### 4. Gary Alexander (Written comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

STATEMENT for Ulster County Legislature October 22, 2013

I'm Gary Alexander. I'm a researcher & journalist who became concerned about the effects of electromagnetism upon biological systems while covering the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Since that time, the electromagnetic environment has been altered in ways I could then scarcely imagine.

The roots of the present issue date back long before the advent of these so-called "smart meters," and the details are far too involved for a 3 minute address but, in brief, there's a multitude of declassified military studies dating at least to the 1940s which very clearly determined that certain uses and frequencies of microwave transmission should be classed as biological weaponry.

The infamous Russian "Woodpecker" signals transmitted from the 1950s well into the 1970s present a classic case of radio frequency injury inflicted upon U.S. diplomatic and intelligence personnel which inspired intensive government-sponsored research programs here. Much of this work is still classified but, from what has been released and from independent academic studies, we can view alarming evidence of the insidious damage prolonged exposure to microwave radiation can inflict.

Among problems legislators face while considering this question is the value and validity of the science involved. Working on the assumption that there are still lawmakers who wish to "do the right thing" for their constituents and encouraged by the example of municipalities and county governments across the country who have awakened to the unusual precedents attempting to be set in the current deployment, I would beseech the present body to take a very close and careful look at the science and at the experiences of those who, like myself, have personally suffered serious health problems stemming from the presence of a digital meter installed upon their place of residence.

A journalistic overview of the relevant studies conducted over the past few decades reveals a very obvious pattern of findings; a dichotomy of results between independent academic scientists and groups and those sponsored by commercial interests. The discrepancies and inconsistencies are explained when the study designs are examined. The science can be distorted by the structure and planned duration of a given study; criminally so, in the view of many observers, when motivations are measured against desired outcome and eventual consequence.

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protection racket which demands "Pay us extra or we'll destroy your health!" Many parents, concerned about the health of their families, worry that legislators will be complicit with what they consider crimes against children.

Another consideration, among many which cannot be condensed into 3 minutes, is the view shared by some experts even within their own industry, that the entire global "Smart Grid" venture (into which two trillion dollars is proposed to be invested) is a major scam *designed to fail*. Some of these voices, from both business and science, point out that the cumulative nature of biological decline is a known factor calculated to affect half of the exposed population *within this decade*, collapsing the projected system to the profit of some and the devastation of most. This, too, can be elaborated in detail.

Also, some expert observers, including Dr. Timothy Schoechle of the National Institute for Science, Law and Public Policy, note that the meters are being rushed into place with an unfinished technology in hopes of heading off the public power movement which is placing energy supply profitably into the hands of local governments. Again, this can be more fully detailed.

We are on the verge of seeing the most dire predictions of one of the world's most astute authorities on the health effects of electromagnetic radiation, New York State's own Dr. Robert O. Becker, whom I had the great honor of interviewing prior to his death, realized. Dr. Becker's research studies and books are strongly recommended for any review related to the deployment of devices emitting microwave radiation.

We are, in essence, electromagnetic beings already penetrated daily with toxic emissions which are deceitfully being identified as "harmless." The "canaries in the coal mine" are the birds, bees and other disappearing species around us as the very fabric of life is tattered by a rapidly rising flood of biologically disruptive frequencies. It is past time to responsibly evaluate our situation.

- Gary Alexander Oct 21, 2013

P.O. Box 194 Woodstock, N.Y. 12498 845 657-7409

#### 5. Jay Wenk

Mr. Wenk was present to urge the Legislature to hold a hearing addressing the topic of Smart Meters which he referred to as "nasty meters." He conveyed that his constituents in Woodstock were negatively "up in arms" over their use and also, he was authorized to convey that the Woodstock Town Board unanimously requested consideration to hold a hearing on the topic.

6. <u>Kate Reese Hurd</u> (Written comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

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The PSC recently sent me a 2010 Utilities Telecom Council article called "No Health Threat from Smart Meters". It states that the FCC's limits for Radio Frequency exposures are based on the amounts needed to heat body tissues sufficiently to cause rats to change their behavior, and it concludes that radio frequencies "emitted by smart meters, cell phones, wireless routers...can only damage the body at extremely high levels." Recent science shows this is far off the mark. Extremely low levels are bio-active and many effects stem directly from the pulsing nature of wireless RF radiations. The BioInitiative Report of 20121 peer-review of over 1800 new studies urges an immediate international limit of no more than .03 milliWatts per meter squared2, because biological effects are seen at levels at least this low. The Austrian Medical Association<sup>3</sup> sets the limit far lower than that, at .001mW/m2. We must pay attention.

Whatever the FCC limits are, clearly, the whole-body exposure readings I've taken4 of 182 mW/m2 at 1 foot and 13.3 mW/m2 at 3 feet away from a meter is allowed - up to 6,000 times the level at which biological disruption is being seen. The constant on/off WiFi pulsing of all such devices harrasses cellular functions that depend on clear bio-electrical signals that regulate nerve, heart, hormone and immune system responses.

I discovered that the direct cause of the disquiet in my own chest, in my heartbeat, was the cordless phone base station and wireless router in my home emitting pulsing WiFi 24/7. Since silencing this WiFi, my heartbeat has settled down. I connect by ground phone and ground cables. The difference is night and day.

And herein is my sense of alarm about meters. Meters are PERMANENT installations. Whatever their emissions are now, where they spike wireless radio frequencies at least 4-5x a minute 24/7 whether transmitting or not, these emissions will increase. Each meter is to keep constant contact with "smart chips" in all household appliances and with up to a thousand neighboring meters. All of this wireless pulsing must go through my dwelling, my workplace AND THROUGH ME, permanently. This is toxic trespass. I have the freedom to choose to remove WiFi from within my home for health reasons. I will have no freedom and no control over this unremitting trespass from meters, and no escape from it.

This technology has been channeled, now flooded, into our lives in an "innocent till proven guilty" manner that belongs only to humans, not to phenomena that have never been a part of the natural system. Please join us as we educate ourselves and act. In just 5 generations of exposures equivalent to ours rats can't reproduce. Please let us not add permanent metering to this overload.

Submitted with respect and encouragement,

Kate Reese Hund

Kate Reese Hurd, High Falls NY kreehu@gmail.com (I do not pursue email actively)

NOTE: I am also providing copies of a 4x51/2 card citing essential websites and YouTube presentations, for distribution to each Legislator, to smooth the way and hasten the education process.

BioInitiative Report of 2012, Conclusions Section: Google ElectricalPollution.com, scroll down about 1/4 to the section on the Report and find the link to the Conclusions Section. Also Google the report itself and see "Section 22: Precaution in Action - Global Public Health" for the International Advisories

→ Table of Contents for the Section 22 Advisories is attached to my page here.

2.03 mW/m2 = .003 uW/cm2 as in the Report

<sup>3</sup>Austrian Medical Association - Google "Guideline of the Austrian Medical Association" for the diagnosis and treatment of EMF- related health problems and illnesses (EMF syndrome).

<sup>4</sup>To do your own research to uncover exposures in daily life, the most recommended and easy-to-use detector device appears to be the CORNET ED-78S RF/LF FIELD STRENGTH POWER METER,

"ELECTROSMOG" METER. See www.norad4u.com and www.radmeters.com.

# **SECTION 22** Precaution in Action – Global Public Health Advice Following BioInitiative 2007

Dr. Gerd Oberfeld, MD Public Health Department Regional Government Office of the Land Salzburg

Salzburg, Austria Speaker Environmental Medicine Austrian Medical Association Vienna, Austria

Prepared for the BioInitiative Working Group October 2012

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7. <u>Toby Stover</u> (Written comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

My name is Toby Stover. Until recently, I was working from my home as a Health Coach. I have been living in High Falls for 33 years and have been a long time customer of Central Hudson. In July, (2013) I leased a solar system to green my home. In August, without my knowledge or consent, Central Hudson removed my analog meter and installed a GE Itron "smart" meter on my property.

Within one week, after becoming unusually ill without explanation, I discovered the meter. I complained to my utility and the PSC. Both told me that it was not a smart meter, because it is not a two-way meter and that it was perfectly safe. Central Hudson claimed it was essential in order to read the Solar System. I checked with Sungevity, the solar company, who assured me that their systems work perfectly well with ordinary analog meters still in use in States that have opted out of smart meters. When I demanded that Central Hudson return the analog meter, they told me that analog meters are no longer available and are not being made, a willful misrepresentation.

In my own research, I learned that this is a one-way, microwave emitting, high EMF frequency radiating device, dangerous and incompatible with life. It is called a smart meter. I discovered alarming reports of identical and similar symptoms that I was experiencing. The symptoms were so bad, that I, as a 61 year old, could not bear to live or sleep in my own home. I suffered heart palpitations, a resting heart rate of over 100 beats per minute, stinging sensations all over my skin, severe nausea, insomnia, endocrine disruption, bruises which would not heal and daily migraine headaches. I had no choice but to turn off my electricity and am now living by candle light. I cannot work from home as my work requires a computer. I have lost income and have spent a fortune trying to mitigate the harm caused by this aggressive intrusion. As the days become shorter and colder, I face the prospect of surviving the winter without electricity. This is a violation, in my home and on my property.

My outrage raises the following questions: Do we have rights? Do we have the right to say no? Do we have to choose between health & electricity? Do we have the right to feel safe in our homes? Who is protecting us? Do we have a right to protect ourselves? Is industry "science" factual? Where is the real science? Is a smart meter not a smart meter, called by any other name? Is our right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness compromised if we are made sick? Will Fortis, a global utility company be allowed to supersede the rights of US citizens living in the Hudson Valley by imposing their agenda on us?

The only remedy is to remove and ban these harmful meters. I implore you, our representatives, to address this critical issue of our health, safety and rights by calling for State level hearings. These meters are dangerous and must be recalled. In the meantime, we must guard our rights by instituting an immediate opt out to protect ourselves from harmful intrusion. Corporate privilege cannot be allowed to trump our human, civil and environmental rights.

Thank you, Toby Stover 81 Clove Valley Rd. High Falls, NY 12440 10/22/13 **8.** <u>Premilla Dixel for Anita Gehrke</u> (Written comment on file with the Clerk of the Legislature).

I am reading this for someone who is unable to attend.

My name is Anita Gehrke. I am a cancer survivor who lives and works from home. Having read peer reviewed scientific research out of Yale and Harvard, I became concerned about the use of smart type meters. The list of illnesses is lengthy and include reoccurences of cancer. I repeatedly requested that Central Hudson leave my analog meter on my home. Against my wishes, a technician came with a new meter, and I refused it. He promised me that this meter was nothing like a "smart meter" and was 100% harmless. Within an hour of installation I became severely ill. My symptoms included diarhea, dizziness, nausea, ringing in my ears, heart palpitations and intense hot flashes. I googled the meter's serial number and it came up "Itron Smart Meter." I demanded it be removed. Central Hudson refused and informed me that if I choose to have electricity, I must take whatever meter hey decide to put on my house. My offer to pay to have an analog meter put back on was met with veiled threats of my electricity being turned off. I have been increasingly ill since the new meter was installed. Although I was happy to have Central Hudson deliver and monitor my electricity, I'm now being forced to choose between my health and having electricity. I filed a formal complaint with the Public Service Commission which has supported the position of Central Hudson throughout the entire process. They closed my case saying that Central Hudson has proven the safety of the meters. This is patently untrue and an outrage. Therefore, I urge you to do everything in your power to initiate a comprehensive, independent non-industry funded study of the safety of these meters. In the interim, we must have an immediate opt out law in place.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Anita Gehrke 17 Clove Valley Rd. High Falls, NY 12440 845-687-0806

### 9. <u>Philip Gurrieri</u>

Mr. Gurrieri indicated that he had installed solar and was waiting for the inspector to approve the installation for the power to be turned on. He was not aware that new meters were being used. He asked if the Country had heard a "State of the Nation Address?" He asked who government was responsible to. Mr. Gurrieri made reference to a paper his son had written while in Jr. High school regarding family heritage. He ended by asking if we were a commodity and no, we "get to live after death."

# 10. Peter Fluchere

Mr. Fluchere brought good news regarding tourism and stated that the Fall Foliage rides on the CMRR trains in both Kingston and Mt. Tremper had been full during the month of October. He stated that although FEMA funds had not been received, Campground Curve had two feet remaining for completion and a train would be in Phoenicia Saturday afternoon. Mr. Fluchere reflected that the ability to reach Route 209 allowed for a pumpkin patch ride with children selecting a pumpkin. Lastly, Mr. Fluchere extended an invitation to the Legislature to ride either the Kingston or Mt. Tremper trains to view the remaining foliage.

# 11. Pam Krimsky

Ms. Krimsky wished to say that a lot of her friends had been getting sick from the use of Smart Meters and she didn't want the meters installed on her house. She stated it was a mistake to allow Central Hudson to install the meters and that they were being used to collect information and that jobs would be lost as a result of the use of the meters. She stated that she had called Central Hudson who blatantly lied in stating that they weren't being used. Ms. Krimsky indicated that the Legislature had a responsibility to protect the public.

# 12. <u>Susan Epstein</u>

Ms. Epstein indicated that she had learned of the use of Smart Meters about a year prior and the health issues experienced by several people who didn't know each other. She had researched the topic and found that in certain instances, electrical bills had skyrocketed. Ms. Epstein recounted a telephone conversation she had with a Director of an animal shelter located in Florida whose bill had increased significantly after the installation of a Smart Meter. She concluded by urging the Legislature to hold hearings on the topic, stating that people shouldn't be forced to have the meters installed.

# 13. <u>Eric Hertz</u>

Mr. Hertz conveyed that it wasn't a Central Hudson issue but that the Smart Meter was an issue throughout the United States. He indicated that the Legislature of seven states had passed opting out legislation. Mr. Hertz commented on the variations as to what the meters were actually being called.

# 14. Chris Chales

Ms. Chales commented that her health declined after the installation of a Smart Meter on her residence. She stated that Smart Meters being safe was a fallacy. Ms. Chales recounted the negative effects of microwave radiation. Ms. Chales implored the Legislature to hold hearings on the topic of Smart Meters and research the use of the meters.

# MINUTES PAGE 16 OCTOBER 22, 2013 15. <u>Chris Finley</u>

Mr. Finley had recently moved to Woodstock and found himself being unable to sleep during the middle of the night. After conducting research, he found that Smart Meters had been installed on his home. He noticed during traveling that he'd experienced chest spasms which he had never experienced before. Mr. Finley indicated that his wife was experiencing similar health issues. Mr. Finley stated that Central Hudson had told him that it was less exposure than that from cell phones.

# 16. Doreen Peone

Ms. Peone addressed the issue of Smart Meters and indicated that she also suffered from the negative health effects which appeared since the installation of a new meter. Ms. Peone indicated that Central Hudson installed a new meter although there was no need for one, against her wishes. She stated that there had been a number of studies conducted including those by the American Academy of Medicine and the University of Albany and that further studies were needed and that the public shouldn't be guinea pigs in the process.

# 17. Leslee Cooper

Ms. Cooper wished to speak on behalf of her family and three of her neighbors that weren't able to personally attend. She conveyed that conversations her neighbors had with Central Hudson included their denial of the use of Smart Meters, that they weren't approved for use in New York State, and that the meters only pulse a certain number of times per day. She didn't understand the untruths being conveyed by Central Hudson. Ms. Cooper stated the installation was the equivalent of the installation of a small cell tower in one's home. She asked the Legislature to hold hearings and consider the environmental and health impacts. Results of summaries on the search of "radio frequency radiation" on file with the Clerk of the

# 18. Cheryl Schneider

Ms. Schneider's expertise was in science and technology with a degree from SUNY Albany. She first learned of Smart Meters when one was installed on her home in 2002. She had traveled extensively but upon remaining home extensively since 2008, she had numerous health issues. Ms. Schneider indicated that the meters were a hundred times worse than cell phones. She stated that all should review the contents of the Bio Initiative and that Smart Meters had to go.

**RESOLUTION NOS**: 256-275 (217B – Local Law failed to advance from Committee) (239 - Postponed in Committee)

# Consent

**Resolution Nos. 265 - 274** were adopted unanimously by the following vote: AYES: 21 NOES: 0 (Absent: Legislators Aiello and Fabiano) (Approved by the County Executive) MINUTES PAGE 17 OCTOBER 22, 2013

# Late Resolution

*Resolution No. 275* – Authorizing Reimbursement To The State For The Cost Of Conducting A Special Session Of The New York State Assembly, Not To Exceed \$75,000

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: 13 NOES: 8 (Noes: Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Loughran, John Parete, Richard Parete, Robert Parete, Provenzano, and Wishnick) (Absent: Legislators Aiello and Fabiano)

DISCUSSION:

Legislator Donaldson commented that the proposed Resolution set a dangerous precedent. Legislators Provenzano, Ronk, Gregorius, John Parete, Rich Parete, Gerentine, Rodriguez, Harris, Briggs, Bartels, Wishnick and Belfiglio participated in discussion addressing their positions with regard to the proposed Resolution.

# **MEETING ADJOURNED IN MEMORY OF:**

Eleanor Renate Barringer, Eddyville	Margaret "Peggy" Lester, Stone Ridge
Cynthia M. Rose, Kingston	Richard L. Snyder, Saugerties
William G. Ritter, Rosendale	Rose I. LeFever, Bloomington
Joyce Winifred Wert, Kingston	Bonnie Lynn Schlosser, Tillson
Loretta Ann Schambach, Kerhonkson	Harry B. Cornwell, New Paltz
Gladys Lillian Witkowski, Kingston	Michael A. Wiley, Kingston
Henry E. Boice, Kingston	Donald Clinton, Gardiner
Kenneth P. Hornbeck, Jr., Port Charlotte, FL	Peter Anella, Highland
Judith Rank, Boiceville	Pat Bowen, Georgia- Ken Ronk's Aunt

### **MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:13 PM**

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# **NEXT MEETING:**

The next Regular Meeting of the Ulster County Legislature will be held on Tuesday, **November 19**, **2013 at 7:00 PM** in the Legislative Chambers, Sixth Floor, Ulster County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York.

Resolution deadline is Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at 12 Noon.