

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE HELD ON  
JULY 14, 2005**

Acting Chairman, Greg Osetek called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with all legislators present, except Legs. Ospelt, Bullard, Kunzwiler, Brewer and Johnson. Invocation was given by Ted Jerrett, Clerk of the Legislature, followed by the salute to the flag. Hearing no objections to the minutes of the meeting held on June 9, 2005, Acting Chairman Osetek declared them approved. Malone moved to approved the minutes, seconded by Leg. Waters.

**PUBLIC SPEAKERS OF THE DAY:**

Lynn Lawson spoke regarding Resolution No. 86. He felt the elderly need to be better informed regarding the benefits and services available to them, and hopes that this resolution will help. (Leg. Brewer arrived at 2:10 PM.)

**PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Acting Chairman Osetek invited Leg. Proud, the Health and Human Services Committee, Commissioner Fran Lanigan and Joette Deane to come forward. Leg. Proud presented a plaque to Ms. Deane in recognition of her 30 years of service to the County. Commissioner Frances Lanigan praised and thanked Ms. Deane for her years of service.

Acting Chairman Osetek invited Leg. Gardner and the Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee, E-911 director Mike Allen, and Senior Telecommunicator Robert Loomis to come forward. Leg. Gardner thanked Mr. Loomis and gave him a certificate of appreciation for honorable public service for 30 years. Mr. Allen offered a few remarks.

Acting Chairman Osetek invited County Clerk George Williams to come forward. Mr. Williams introduced NYS Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Raymond Martinez, Oswego DMV Clerk Brenda Earl, and Oswego County DMV Supervisor Colleen Bacon. Legislature Clerk Ted Jerrett read a commendation. Mr. Williams explained how Ms. Earl, following department protocol, thwarted the efforts of an undercover Federal Homeland Security Agent as he attempted to obtain a NYS Driver license, using a false Social Security Card and a Michigan Driver's license. Commissioner Martinez explained the importance of detecting false documentation and commended Ms. Earl as well as the entire Oswego County Motor Vehicle Department for a job well done. He added that this positive testimony to planning, proper training and dedicated employees would be a part of his scheduled presentation before Congress.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES: None**

**REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Leg. Santore offered Resolution No. 79, entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF DEEDS FOR PROPERTY SOLD BY THE OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE, TITLES TO WHICH WERE ACQUIRED BY THE TAX FORECLOSURES OF 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003.

Resolution passed by a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Bryant offered Resolution No.80, entitled, RESOLUTION FIXING TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING RELATIVE TO PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2005, ENTITLED, A LOCAL LAW SUPERCEDING COUNTY LAW § 215 REGARDING THE LEASING OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE COUNTY OF OSWEGO.

Leg. Waters moved to amend this resolution so that the public hearing would be held on September 15, 2005 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Leg. Anson. The amendment to the resolution passed, by a show of hands. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor.

Resolution passed as amended  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Brown, substituting for Leg. Ospelt, offered Resolution No. 81, entitled, RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSED STATE SENATE BILL S-2081. Leg. Brown stated that this bill would severely hamper development in the agricultural areas of the County, and feels that this is counterproductive to Oswego County's well being. Leg. Seager thanked the Economic Development and Planning Committee for bringing this forward and moved to add to the resolve, that in addition to sending it to our State Legislative Representatives, "that it also be sent to the Department of Environmental Conservation". Leg. Waters seconded. The amendment passed by a voice vote.

Resolution passes as amended, by a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Gardner, in place of Leg. Bullard, offered Resolution No. 82 entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION E-911. This would upgrade equipment in the E-911 Office to help locate wireless callers.

Resolution passed, by a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Proud, offered Resolution No. 83, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES. This would accept additional Summer Youth Employment Funds.

Resolution passed, by a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Gardner, in place of Leg. Bullard, offered Resolution No. 84, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION PROBATION DEPARTMENT. This would accept \$60,000 for Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program.

Resolution passes, by a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Gardner, in place of Leg. Bullard, offered Resolution No. 85 entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION PROBATION DEPARTMENT. This would transfer \$20,000 from contingency for the purchase of a new car for Probation. Leg. Gardner advised that this resolution is a request for a Special Services Vehicle. Leg. Malone questioned

why a new car was needed instead of a used car. Leg. Thomas wondered if it was necessary to spend that much money on a car. Leg. Waters added that this is a safety issue, and a proper vehicle is necessary. Leg. Brewer said that they consulted the Sheriff's department and they suggested we try to get something similar to the police cars currently in service. Leg. Bryant explained that it would cost more to repair the car that probation currently has and supports the concept of a new vehicle, and this resolution. Leg. Leemann made a motion to move the question, seconded by Leg. Waters. The motion passed, opposed by Legs. Malone, Seager, and Anson. Roll call vote on the resolution followed.

Resolution passed with a Roll Call Vote

YES: 14 No: 7 ABSENT: 4

YES: WATERS, LEEMANN, BRYANT, GEARSBECK, PROUD, BROWN, BEARDSLEY, RUSAW, GARDNER, OSETEK, SANTORE, PONZI, VASHO, BREWER.

NO: THOMAS, ANSON, SEAGER, HOEFER, MALONE, BECKWITH, FRENCH.

ABSENT: OSPELT, BULLARD, KUNZWILER, JOHNSON

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 86, entitled, RESOLUTION AMENDING BUDGET RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT COUNSELING PROGRAM WITHIN THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING. Leg. Malone questioned whether it was going to be an annual expense, or a one-time expense, and questioned what would happen with the equipment and employees that this program would be using when the program ended. Mr. Lyman explained that this was only for one year and that the equipment would stay in the County. Leg. Waters commended the department on a well-written informational memorandum and also the budget modification request was done well. Leg. Brown stated that it is vital for the seniors to get this information. Leg. Brewer asked Mr. Lyman if it would be up to the full legislature at the conclusion of the year to maintain this program. Mr. Lyman explained that once the program was in place and had fulfilled its purpose then the responsibilities would fall back to the Office of Social Security.

Resolution passed with a voice vote

YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Leemann offered Resolution No. 87, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING OF THE FEDERAL-AID AND STATE "MARCHISELLI" PROGRAMS-AID ELIGIBLE COSTS OF A TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT. Leg. Seager questioned what the problem was with the Minetto Bridge, since she thought it was a relatively new bridge. Don Morey pointed out that it's actually been 20 years since the last overhaul and that the State's annual bridge inspection revealed that the bridge needed repairs.

Resolution passed with a voice vote

YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Proud, in place of Leg. Osetek, offered Resolution No. 88, entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF AGREEMENTS WITH NATIONWIDE

RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS AND HARTFORD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY FOR ADMINISTRATION OF DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN. Leg. Brown questioned whether these accounts were insured against loss. Personnel Director Maureen Sullivan advised that they were not.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT 4

Leg. Leemann offered Resolution No. 89, entitled RESOLUTION INCREASING AUTHORIZATION LEVEL FOR CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 197-GENERATOR-BUNNER STREET COMPLEX. Leg. Malone stated that, in his opinion, the generator has become a money pit; and questioned what the building will be used for when the power goes out. Administrator Steve Lyman explained that the generator has the capability of running the whole building and would help maintain critical County functions during emergencies. Leg. Brown said it was especially important for people with health care problems. Leg. Gardner asked what the County's share of the cost would be. The response was "nothing". Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Joe Taormina summarized the project.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote  
with Leg. Malone opposing  
YES: 20 No: 1 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Brown, in place of Leg. Ospelt, offered Resolution 90, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION FOR THE LEGISLATURE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FINGER LAKES ALLIANCE, INC. FOR THE WATER QUALITY PROGRAM.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote  
YES: 21 No: 0 ABSENT: 4

Leg. Proud, in place of Leg. Osetek, offered Resolution No. 91, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH THE CSEA PUBLIC WORKS' UNIT. Leg. Brewer stated that it was good that the contract was settled so quickly. Leg. Hoefler said that although the contract seemed reasonable on its face, it will only add to problems down the road and will end up costing the County, both in the public and private sectors. Leg. Beckwith agreed with Leg. Hoefler, but felt that it is a good contract and he would support it. Leg. Brown reminded the legislators of the good job that the highway department does for this area. Leg. Thomas stated he supports the resolution and reminded the legislators that a few years ago, the highway employees took a big hit on their income. Leg. Leemann stated that employees need to be compensated for the good work that they do. Leg. Proud said that this is a 5-year contract (2004 through 2008). Leg. Gearsbeck said he couldn't support this. Leg. Santore said he feels that the County employees do an exemplary job and deserve this contract. Leg. Beardsley said that the employees have also given up 2 sick days for future hires, and increased their deductibles for prescription plans. Leg. Ponzi moved the question, seconded by Brewer. Motion passed, with Leg. Gearsbeck and Hoefler opposing. Roll call vote was taken.

Resolution passed, roll call vote  
YES: 19 No: 2 ABSENT: 4

YES: THOMAS, ANSON, WATERS, LEEMANN, BRYANT, PROUD, BROWN, BEARDSLEY, SEAGER, RUSAW, GARDNER, OSETEK, SANTORE, PONZI, MALONE, BECKWITH, VASHO, FRENCH, BREWER.

NO: GEARSBECK, HOEFER

ABSENT: OSPELT, BULLARD, KUNZWILER, JOHNSON.

Leg. Proud, in place of Leg. Osetek, offered Resolution No. 92, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE. This would provide for a Court Ordered refund of certain taxes to Niagara Mohawk on their hydropower facility in the Town of Orwell. Leg. Waters moved to suspend the rules to consider this resolution. The motion was seconded by Leg. Brown. Motion passed with a voice vote. Leg. Brown said that the court has ruled that we need to pay it. Roll call vote followed.

Resolution passed, roll call vote  
YES: 20 NO: 1 ABSENT: 4

YES: THOMAS, ANSON, LEEMANN, BRYANT, GEARSBECK, PROUD, BROWN, BEARDSLEY SEAGER, RUSAW, GARDNER, OSETEK, SANTORE, PONZI, HOEFER, MALONE, BECKWITH, VASHO, FRENCH, BREWER.

NO: WATERS

ABSENT: OSPELT, BULLARD, KUNZWILER, JOHNSON

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Leg. Waters commended Leg. Osetek on the job he did as acting Chairman.

Leg. Seager reminded everyone of the public meeting at G. Ray Bodley High School.

Leg. Malone thanked everyone for thoughts and support after his mother's death.

Leg. Proud also commended Acting Chairman Osetek.

**NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m. under a motion by Leg. Waters, seconded by Leg. Proud. All in favor.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE LEGISLATURE:**

There was no one signed up to speak.