

Minutes

Human Services Committee

January 20, 2021, 5:00 pm

Virtual via zoom and Streamlined on Facebook

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Pavlock, Whitney, Lawton, Rankin

Member Absent: Whitford

Others: Tampio, Ames, Dennison, Schuyler, D. Anderson, Chagnon

Chairman Pavlock called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (12/9/20)

MOVED by Legislator Whitney, SECONDED by Legislator Rankin

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Pavlock: Is there anyone here to speak to the privilege of the floor?

Clerk Tampio: We have not received any communications.

Proposed Resolution – Confirm Appointments - Chautauqua County Community Services Board

Chairman Pavlock: Anyone here to speak to those appointments today? I've had the opportunity to look at the names and I think they are all well qualified. Anyone have anything to add? Seeing none or hearing none, all those in favor?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend Capital Project H.6010.31003

Mrs. Schuyler: This capital project was one that had been approved by the Planning Board. We thought it would begin in 2020. Circumstances, as you can imagine, have kept that

from occurring so we are requesting to transfer the money that had been in the 2020 to the 2021 so that we can continue the completion of this capital project in 2021.

Chairman Pavlock: That's sound great. The work won't be messing up anyone's scheduling or anything like that? Everything is still in line?

Mrs. Schuyler: No, nothing has been scheduled to complete. We're still in the planning phase of that at the first floor of the South County Office Building renovation since the Chautauqua Center moved out.

Chairman Pavlock: Committee, does anyone have any questions for Christine? Hearing none, all those in favor?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – To Authorize Emergency Use Facility and Public Health Mutual Aid Services Agreements with Chautauqua County Municipalities and Other Governmental Entities

Mrs. Schuyler: What's this resolution is for if you read through it, anytime that there is a threat or occurrence of a disaster, it is in the best interest of the County to have executed mutual aid agreements with other municipalities. Currently we'd have to come through the Legislature every time we needed one of these done. But right now, especially within the midst of this COVID-19 pandemic, we are seeking to enter into emergency response agreements with municipalities and other governmental agencies such as schools in advance so if we do need to use these facilities for things such as vaccination clinics, we will be able to do so. So this resolution, if approved, will give the County Executive the authorization to enter into and execute any agreements as necessary with other municipalities or other governmental entities as needed during emergency times for us to be able to do the work that we need to do.

Chairman Pavlock: This is kind of a good effort to help speed up the process if it comes present that we need to do. Say, we need to go to the school and have a partnership with them instead of having to go through this process each and every time. This will make it a lot quicker if we need it to be, right?

Mrs. Schuyler: Correct. You would be empowering the County Executive to go ahead and enter into mutual aid agreements without having to come to the Legislature for approval on each one.

Legislator Rankin: It seems especially prudent given everything that is going on and how difficult it's been to schedule appointments and get the supplies that we need and if we get to the point where we're able to implement what Christine and the County have as their plan for this, it would be really helpful to be able to put this in place, to support that. It will make things much smoother.

Mrs. Schuyler: Yea, it really is a time saver if we have these agreements in place ahead of time. Then we can have mutual aid agreements in place without having to come to the Legislature for approval of each one of them. We are in a state of emergency currently and looking to partner with *(inaudible)* be able to – if we get ample vaccine, we can go right in and hold vaccination clinics or testing clinics or anything else that needs to be done even if it's just for education or operations of any sort during this emergency time. We'd be able to do that with other governmental agencies or municipalities.

Legislator Rankin: I think it makes a lot of sense.

Chairman Pavlock: Christine, to your knowledge, has any other governmental agency done this same type of thing? Obviously if we do it, we can move fast but if other agencies don't do it, it would require them to have action, correct? So another board may have to go through their approval process. Do you know if anyone else has kind of matched this type of resolution for their own use?

Mrs. Schuyler: To the best of my knowledge, this is a requirement of county government to have this in place because of the Legislature and the Executive branch. This empowers the Executive branch to enter into agreements without coming back to the Legislature branch. Like I said, in a case of the school, we would contract or have a memorandum of understanding with the schools and their school boards would each approve that for us to be able to do that *(inaudible)*. But, as you can appreciate, one *(inaudible)* meetings of the Legislature and not frequent enough in an emergency for us to be able to really act quickly *(inaudible)* and plan ahead so it's prudent for the County to have our ducks in a row as much as we can during these times and this certainly allows us to do that. We did the same thing back in the age when H1N1 pandemic days, we had a similar resolution where the County Executive was empowered to enter into agreements with other municipalities and other governmental agencies without having to come to the Legislature for approval of each one of those. It was very useful during that time because we did go into the schools and provide vaccinations at that time.

Chairman Pavlock: I completely agree with that and I guess my question was, like you said, the school board would have to approve it. I wonder if they would be willing to do any pre-approvals also to this nature. It would even speed up the process even more if need be. I didn't know if it was put out as a recommendation to someone that we have worked to in the past, it may help speed the process up altogether. Otherwise you might have to wait for those other boards to meet to o.k. it.

Mrs. Schulyer: I'm not entirely sure. I do know that we have some drafts of agreements *(inaudible)* based on what we've had in the past and all the schools are willing and able to move swiftly on this.

Chairman Pavlock: Any other questions for Christine regarding this resolution? All those in favor?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Motion – Proclaiming February Black History Month

Legislator Rankin: I'm really happy to support this. It's something that we do every year but especially this year I think it's really important to acknowledge this.

Chairman Pavlock: I agree. Obviously this month was the celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday and he certainly was a very good advocate for his time (*inaudible*) in equality and rights so it's appropriate that the Legislature recognize it this month as well. I'm pleased do to so. Any other comments? We do not need to vote on this.

Other

Discussion – Transitional Assistance – D. Anderson

MOVED by Legislator Rankin, SECONDED by Legislator Whitney.

Unanimously Carried (5:28 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Kathy Tampio, Clerk/Olivia Ames, Deputy Clerk/Lori J. Foster, Sr. Stenographer