

Minutes
Finance & Rules Committee
April 27, 2004

Members Present: Committee Chairman Kent Burto, Legislators Gary Fikes, James Nabywaniec, Scott Gray, Jennie Adsit, Gino Zando, Carolyn Fitzpatrick and Board Chairman Robert Thomas

Others Present: Legislators Ken Blankenbush, James St. Croix, Michael Behling, Gary Ormsby, Philip Reed, Robert Boice, and Kathleen LaClair; County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy County Administrator Michael Kaskan, County Attorney John Hartzell, Budget Analyst Greg Hudson, County Clerk JoAnn Wilder, County Treasurer Nancy Brown, media representatives, Stenographer Kathryn Holloway

Chairman Burto called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and offer the privilege of the floor.

County Legislator Gino Zando introduced reigning Miss NYS, Jessica Lynch who thanked the Legislators for their continuing support of the Miss New York State Pageant held annually in Watertown, and invited Legislators to a Gala in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Miss New York State Scholarship Organization.

In the absence of objection or correction, Chairman Burto declared the minutes of the March Finance & Rules Committee meeting approved.

John Aviste, Black River, suggested that every citizen bears some responsibility to fix the local tax situation, recommending that if the proposed sales tax increase becomes a reality, it should be done in conjunction with a firm commitment to also cut government spending.

Chairman Burto introduced a resolution approving the mortgage tax report and entertained a motion for discussion. Such motion was made by Legislator Zando and seconded by Legislator Adsit. There being no discussion the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Burto introduced a resolution supporting the elimination of the sunset provisions of the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund and the Cultural Education Fund, and entertained a motion for discussion. Such motion was made by Legislator Fitzpatrick and seconded by Legislator Zando. There being no discussion the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Burto introduced an additional resolution conditionally authorizing an agreement to sell a parcel of property to the Town of Pamela, and entertained a motion for discussion. Such motion was made by Legislator Fitzpatrick and seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec. There being no discussion the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as

presented.

On a motion by Legislator Fitzpatrick, seconded by Legislator Adsit and unanimously carried, the Committee moved into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

The Committee moved back into public session on a motion by Legislator Fitzpatrick, seconded by Legislator Fikes and unanimously carried, at which time Chairman Burto introduced a resolution appointing Patricia M. Connelly Commissioner of Social Services (attached for file reference), and entertained a motion for discussion. Such motion was made by Legislator Adsit and seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec. County Administrator Robert Hagemann briefly outlined the terms of compensation for Ms. Connelly. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M. on a motion by Legislator Adsit, seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Hagemann
Clerk of the Board