

Present: Legislator Bausch, Clattenburg, Stein. Also Present: Legislator DeJaneiro Torrey, Davis, Legislature Clerk LaGrou, County Manager Gsell, Assistant County Manager Landers, County Treasurer German, Real Property Director Andrews, Brett Frank, Tom Turnbull, Kelly Rapone, Jason Molino, Julie Pacatte, Rachael Tabalski, Steve Hyde, Buffalo News reporter Mike Pettinella, Batavia News reporter Krencik and Howard Owens.

Chair Bausch called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM in the Legislature Conference Room. The minutes from the January 13, 2016 meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Stein.

Chairman Bausch explained that resolution 3 would be moved to the top of the agenda. Treasurer German explained that budget transfers were needed to close out the 2015 budget. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro.

Next, Genesee County Chamber of Commerce President Tom Turnbull presented the 2015 Tourism and Finance Report. The Chamber signed the mortgage for the new building Friday, January 29, 2016. Highlights from 2015 include an increase in bed tax revenue of 2% (about \$10,000) over the previous year. Golf package revenue was down slightly, this is attributed to the decrease in value of the Canadian dollar. Review of 2016 budget includes more expenses due to maintenance costs at the new building. The Chamber conducted an analysis of the breakdown of expenses and found that 64% is related to Tourism (TPA) and 36% is Chamber related. Those percentages were used to calculate future rent and maintenance costs for Tourism (TPA). Kelly Rapone explained the focus programs; golf packages and hotel accommodations for specialized groups (car clubs). Tourism staff has focused on packaging strategies that include value-added features. Chairman Bausch asked Mr. Turnbull if he would announce the significant donation that will be made to the Chamber's new building project. Mr. Turnbull explained that Ray Dunlevy, a manager at US Gypsum Co in Oakfield indicated that US Gypsum will donate all of the wall board needed for the renovations at the new Chamber building. Upon conclusion of the presentation, designating the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce as the Official Tourism Agency was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Stein.

Chairman Bausch explained the contract with the Chamber of Commerce is the same as in the past except for the addition of the one-time funding for the purchase and renovation of the building. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro.

Next, Batavia City Manager Jason Molino discussed the Residential Redevelopment Inhibited Property Exemption 485-r. Mr. Molino shared some background information on Batavia's experience with vacant and abandoned properties. Most are single family residences. Average assessment is \$50,000-\$60,000. Annual impact of these properties includes \$25,000 in delinquent taxes, \$20,000 in lost water and sewer revenue, \$10,000 in City staff time, \$11,300 in unpaid fees and more. In response, City Council introduced home rule legislation to provide a property tax exemption for owner-occupied, single family home-owners who take on the burden and challenge of redeveloping a vacant or abandoned property. Proposed legislation would provide tax relief for interested residents willing to take on redeveloping abandoned properties into owner-occupied single family residences. This exemption does not assist rental or income properties. However, a property can be redeveloped by one owner and sold to another, and still be eligible for the exemption. Under the exemption, all taxing jurisdictions would still receive property taxes on the base value of \$40,000 however the increased assessed value would be exempt for the exemption period. Chairman Bausch asked if there was a sense from the Ways & Means Committee to move ahead with a public hearing and local law and direct County Attorney Zambito to prepare necessary resolutions.

Next, Assistant County Manager Landers explained the request to apply to NYS Hazard Abatement Board Occupational Safety and Health Training & Education Program for a grant for 2016-2017. The grant period begins August 1, 2016. A motion was made by Legislator Clattenburg for permission to apply seconded by Legislator Stein.

County Manager Gsell explained the need for stop loss insurance coverage for the County's self-insurance medical benefit plan and why HM Insurance Company of New York was recommended. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Clattenburg.

Mr. Gsell presented on the 2016 budget amendment for Community Development Block Grant Funding from the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation Office of Community Renewal. Genesee County was awarded the Economic Development grant in the amount of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars. The grant money needs to be moved from 2015 to 2016 to enable continued use of the grant funds. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro.

Next, Mr. Gsell explained the Batavia Pathway to Prosperity Capital and Reinvestment Fund, also known as BP2. The City, School District, County, GCEDC and Batavia Development Corporation are looking to collectively enter into an agreement to repurpose a portion of the City, County and School Payment In Lieu of Taxes receipts to capitalize a reinvestment fund to use to offset extraordinary expenses related to economic development and brownfield redevelopment. This was approved for placement on the

next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Clattenburg.

County Manager Gsell described the next resolution which determines that the sale of the nursing home to Premier is an unlisted action under the NYS Environmental Quality Review Act is necessary to continue with the sale of the nursing home. The sale will not result in any significant adverse impacts to the environment and therefore will issue a Negative Declaration with respect to the Project. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Clattenburg.

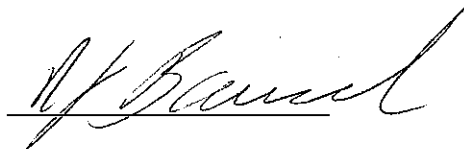
Mr. Gsell explained that after a conversation with Premier Health about rehabilitation services and the resolution from the Human Services committee meeting on February 1, 2016 that this will likely be tabled at the next Legislature Meeting. Mr. Gsell then explained that a conference call occurred and a new and better approach will be pursued with regard to the Genesee County Nursing Home Administrative Services Agreement.

An Out-of-State grant funded travel request was made for two county EMS staff for April 18-23, 2016 to travel to the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. Travel request and authorization form was completed and signed and is included in back up. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Stein.

The Out-of-State travel request by the Planning Department will be placed on the next Ways & Means Meeting Agenda. The Planning department training is not scheduled until June, 2016.

County Manager Gsell shared a summary of some issues discussed at the recent NYSAC conference.

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM by motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Clattenburg.



Robert Bausch, Chair  
Ways & Means Committee  
Submitted 2-4-16 phl