

Clinton County Government Study Commission Meeting
January 17, 2007
Minutes

Call To Order:

Chairman Dan Harger called the Commission to order at 6:34 p.m. at the Clinton County Courthouse. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was participated in by all present.

Roll Call:

Ms. Gardner took roll call as follows:

Present were: Ms. Deb Day, Mr. Mike Hanna, Mr. Dan Harger, Mr. Richard Novosel, Mr. Terry O'Connor, and Mr. Les Robinson.

Absent was: Ms. June Houser, Dr. Kathleen McQuaid, Ms. Coreena Meyer, Mr. Renninger and Dr. Bob Wise.

Pennsylvania Economy League representative present was Mr. Charles Watters and Mr. Gerald Cross.

Approve Agenda:

Mr. Hanna made a motion to approve the January 17, 2007 agenda as presented. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the January 17, 2007 agenda was approved unanimously.

New and Continuing Business:

Salaries:

Ms. Day reviewed the summary of salaries for various positions in Sixth Class Pennsylvania Counties. The Summary showed the current salaries for Clinton County, the salaries for 2011 in Clinton County, and the average of the salaries for the other Sixth Class Counties.

Highlights of the discussion were:

- Treasurer, Prothonotary and Register and Recorder have two jobs in Clinton County.
- Average salaries on the Summary are for full time positions and are starting salaries.

- Discussion on establishing a starting salary and a salary for experience; PEL noted this cannot be done according the laws affecting elected officials.
- Legislative Body will be required to pass an ordinance to raise salaries.
- DA position full time or part time still not determined.
- Salaries should be tailored to local economy and environment.
- Legislative Body will need clerical support.
- Commission can set any salary that is fair and appropriate; salaries will be frozen for a minimum of 4 years.

The Study Commission members will come back to the next meeting with some definite salaries in mind for the various positions.

Defining Districts:

The PEL had presented previously to the Study Commission three scenarios defining four districts for Clinton County. Mr. O'Connor presented another scenario. Mr. Harger presented two more scenarios. The PEL will have these three additional scenarios made into colored maps and bring back to the next meeting. The Study Commission will then have six total scenarios to review.

The PEL noted that the districts are required to be configured based on nonpolitical issues. Districts need the right combination of communities of interest and geography keeping in mind one man - one vote.

The PEL gave the Study Commission the following Second Revised Draft Articles for review. The PEL noted that these drafts will need to be gone through with a fine tooth comb. The PEL will also be starting the outline for the final report, certification paperwork. The Commission needs to determine where, when and how many public meeting there will be.

1. Article I - General Powers
2. Article II - Legislative Branch/County Legislative Body
3. Article III - Other Elected Officials
4. Article IV - Administrative Branch/Appointed County Executive
5. Article V - Budget and Finance
6. Article VI - Tax Limitation Provisions
7. Article VII - Administrative Code

8. Article VII - Personnel Code
9. Article IX - Accountability, Conduct and Ethics
10. Article X - Authorities, Boards and Commissions
11. Article XI - Initiative and Referendum
12. Article XII - Recall

- 13. Article XIII - General/Miscellaneous Provisions
- 14. Article XIV - Transitional Provisions

Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2007:

Mr. Novosel made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 10, 2007 with the dated changed to January 10 instead of January 03. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the January 10, 2007 minutes with the change was approved unanimously.

Reports:

Invoice Review:

There were no invoices for review.

Public Comment:

The public asked the Study Commission to take a hard look at the district configuration and the decision to have the 3 incumbent Commissioners be in addition to the 7 legislators for the first 2 years of the Charter; making 10 members of the Legislative Body.

It was also noted that clerical support to the Legislative Body is essential.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 09:20 p.m.

Deb Day, Secretary
Clinton County Government Study Commission

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