

Clinton County Government Study Commission Meeting
September 26, 2007
Minutes

Call To Order:

Vice Chairman Dan Harger called the Commission to order at 7:00 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 arrived 7:08 p.m., Mr. Dan Harger., Dr. Kathleen McQuaid, Mr. Terry O'Connor, Mr. Ernie Renninger, and Mr. Les Robinson. .

Absent were: Ms. June Houser, Ms. Coreena Meyer, Mr. Richard Novosel, and Dr. Bob Wise.

Vice-Chairman Harger chaired the meeting until Chairman Hanna's arrival at 7:08 p.m.

Approve Agenda:

Mr. O'Connor made a motion to approve the September 26, 2007 agenda. Ms. Day seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the September 26, 2007 agenda was approved unanimously.

Invoice Review:

Clinton County Government Study Commission 09/26/07
Page 1 of 4

Treasurer O'Connor presented the following invoices:

\$65.25 - secretarial services

\$15.50 - advertising

\$80.75 - Total

Mr. Renninger made a motion to approve the invoices totaling \$80.75 for payment. Ms. Day seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the invoices totaling \$80.75 for payment was approved unanimously.

It was noted that the Commission will be required to submit a final financial statement.

New and Continuing Business:

Mandamus Act:

Chairman Hanna read Mr. Coploff's summary of his conversation with the District Attorney regarding the Writ of Mandamus. The District Attorney agrees that the printing and mailing is a permissible act under the law and proceed to authorize the printing and mailing, a Writ of Mandamus will be filed upon the refusal of the County Commissioners to pay the bill for the printing and mailing.

Minority Report Summary:

Study Commission reviewed the 2 page Minority Report Summary. Discussion points were

- Executive salary is up to \$100,000 - will be based on qualifications.
- Public has access to the Legislators.
- County Code does not require the Commissioners to be full time.
- Some members did not like the term highly paid.

Mr. Harger made a motion to include the Minority Report Summary as presented in the mailing of the Home Rule Charter Summary. Dr. McQuaid seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to include the Minority Report Summary as presented in the mailing of the Home Rule Charter Summary was approved by a vote of six Yeas and One Abstention: Mr. Robinson who choose to become a member of the public for the remainder of the meeting.

The County Commissioners have agreed to pay for the mailing, even with the additional expense, of the Home Rule Charter Summary and the Minority Report Summary to all homes in Clinton County. Chairman Hanna will contact Mr. Coploff to drop the Writ of Mandamus.

Study Commission will have a press release when the summaries are ready to be mailing to the citizens.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Harger made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 29, 2007, September 10, 2007 and September 20, 2007 as presented. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. Ms. Gardner took a roll call vote whereby the motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 29, 2007, September 10, 2007 and September 20, 2007 as presented was approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

Public once again criticized the statement of business being more receptive to professional attitudes.

Commission Members noted that there role is to educate the public on the Charter not to advocate a vote one way or the other.

Clinton County Government Study Commission 09/26/07
Page 3 of 4

Commission Members noted that certain parts of the Home Rule Charter were written broadly so the Administrative Code and Personnel Codes could address issues in a more specific nature.

Public asked if the Personnel Appeals Board and Personnel Commission make up would be the same individuals. Study Commission will look at this and report back at the next meeting.

The public noted that the "Findings" as presented in the Clinton County Majority Report were derived directly from the language of the "findings" of the Luzerne County Study Commission report of 2003. That six of the eight points reported in the Clinton Majority Report "Findings" were direct copies of the Luzerne "findings". The public was not referencing the proposed

Charter, and in fact read directly from page viii, the summary section of the CC report.

Public stated that having a 36% at increase one every 12 years or so is actually saving money to the citizens. By not having small increases every year the citizens actually save money in the long run. The Study Commission noted one of their reasons for deciding on a home rule charter was to have a government that is affordable for the citizens of Clinton County.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 08:15 p.m. on a motion by Dr. McQuaid and seconded by Ms. Day

Deb Day, Secretary
Clinton County Government Study Commission

srg