

RESOLUTION NO. 133

**AMENDING THE ALBANY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE RULES OF ORDER
AND DISBANDING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEES ON ELDER CARE AND
COURT FACILITIES**

Introduced: 3/12/18

By Messrs. Signoracci, A. Joyce, Feeney, Beston, Clay, Commisso, Domalewicz, Ethier, Mss. Lekakis, McKnight, Messrs. Miller, Smith, Touchette, Ward and Ms. Willingham:

WHEREAS, Rule 22 of the Albany County Legislative Rules of Order provide for the establishment of Special Committees related to significant issues or business before the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, The Special Committee[s] on [Elder Care and] Court Facilities [were] was established regarding major public works or construction projects and related concerns for the County of Albany,

WHEREAS, The Special Committee on Court Facilities was created to address issues related to the renovations and upgrades to the court facility building for the County of Albany, and

WHEREAS, The major renovations for the Albany County Courthouse were completed years ago, and

WHEREAS, The last meeting of the Court Facilities Committee was years ago, and

[WHEREAS, The Special Committee on Elder Care was created in order to address primarily the proposed construction of a new Nursing Home Facility in Albany County, and

WHEREAS, The proposed plans to sell or otherwise alter the Albany County Nursing Home were reviewed by the Special Committee on Elder Care, and were abandoned in favor of maintaining ownership of the Albany County Nursing Home, and

WHEREAS, The Special Committee on Elder Care has not met in relation to its primary function in many years, and]

WHEREAS, Of the various buildings and facilities the County of Albany maintains, the Albany County Nursing Home, the Albany County Courthouse, and

the Civic Center, have been the subject of major renovations or related concerns over the years, and

WHEREAS, In order to streamline legislative functions and reduce redundancy in legislative committees, changes are necessary to the Legislative Rules of Order in order to consolidate these responsibilities, and

WHEREAS, Issues related to the management and construction of all county buildings, bridges and roads in [major constructions at the] Albany County, including the Nursing Home, the Albany County Courthouse, and the Civic Center should be subject to review by a Standing Committee dedicated to such purpose, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature, that the Special Committee[s] on Court Facilities [and Elder Care are] is deemed to have completed [their] its primary function[s] and [are] is hereby disbanded, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Rule 21 of the Albany County Legislative Rules of Order be amended to read as follows:

“RULE 21 - STANDING COMMITTEES

The following standing committees, to consist of nine members for each committee, shall be appointed by the permanent Chairperson of the County Legislature from the membership of the County Legislature within twenty (20) days after said Chairperson's election, and a list thereof shall be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature, and each committee shall perform the duties as hereafter set forth.

Within thirty (30) days of the listing of the committee assignments, each Committee Chairperson shall assign and officially list a time and a day for the regular monthly committee meetings. No Standing Committee of the Albany County Legislature shall meet on a civic holiday and consideration shall be given to avoid meeting on a religious holiday. The Committee Chairperson may cancel any meeting if there is no business for the Committee. In the event a member cannot attend a rescheduled regular meeting and to the extent it is legally permitted, such member may submit to the Chairperson a written statement of their opinion on business items which are on the Committee's agenda and those written opinions shall become part of the Committee's minutes.

Each and every Committee Chairperson shall, to the extent practicable, submit a copy of the Committee Agenda no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled Committee meeting. Every committee meeting shall be open to the public, however, this provision shall not preclude the right of the Chairperson to call for an

executive session.

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Audit and Finance
 - a. Audit and Control
 - b. Budget
 - c. Investment
 - d. Capital Program
 - e. Taxation

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to County finances including the Department of Audit and Control, the Department of Management and Budget, appropriations included in the County Budget and Capital Program, and verification of assessment rolls, equalization rates, and the sale of delinquent tax properties.

The Departments of Audit and Control, Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Management and Budget, the Real Property Tax Service Agency, and all departments involved in a capital project shall report to the standing committee on Audit and Finance.

- [2. Public Works
 - a. County Buildings
 - b. Highways
 - c. Parks and Recreation
 - d. Sewer District
 - e. General Services

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the charge and supervision of design, construction and alterations of County buildings, parking fields, drives, walks, docks, marinas, parks and recreational facilities, preserves, beaches, erosion projects, and such other structures and facilities of the development, maintenance and management of parks and other recreational facilities, also matters pertaining to County facilities for drainage, flood control, sanitation, sewerage and land water supply.

The Departments of General Services, Public Works, Buildings, Parks and Recreation, and the Sewer District shall report to the standing committee on Public Works.]

- 2[3]. Social Services
 - a. Social Services
 - b. Albany County Residential Health Care Facility

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to public welfare and matters affecting the Social Services Department and the Albany County Residential Health Care Facility, except such matters relating to services to the elderly.

The Department of Social Services, the Youth Bureau and the Albany County Residential Health Care Facility shall report to the standing committee on Social Services.

3[4]. Health

- a. Department of Health
- b. Mental Health
- c. Environmental Health

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the County Health Department, County Board of Health, Sanitation Codes, Department of Mental Hygiene and Retardation Alcoholism Boards.

The Departments of Health and Mental Health and the County Coroners shall report to the standing committee on Health.

4[5]. Conservation and Improvement

- a. Conservation and Improvement of County Resources
- b. Cultural and Educational Affairs
- c. Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the improvement and advancement of the County except those having to do with highways and buildings and also all matters pertaining generally to agriculture, Cooperative Extension Services, 4-H Clubs, the conservation of soil, forestry and wildlife and environmental matters.

The Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning, County Planning Board, all County agencies involved in cultural and educational affairs, the Cooperative Extension, the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Environmental Management Council shall report to the standing committee on County Improvement and Conservation.

5[6]. Public Safety

- a. Sheriff
- b. Jail
- c. Probation Office
- d. Fire Coordinator
- e. Civil Defense
- f. Military Affairs

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the operation of the Jail, Sheriffs Department and Probation Department and also all matters pertaining generally to the protection and well-being of the residents of the County.

The County Sheriff, Director of Probation, Fire Coordinator, the Office of Civil Defense and Natural Disaster and the Veterans Bureau shall report to the standing committee of Public Safety.

6[7]. Personnel

- a. Human Resources
- b. Civil Service
- c. County Officers

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to Human Resources, Civil Service affairs and the creation, organization and/or re-organization of County departments and offices as required.

The Department of Human Resources, including the Divisions of Employee Relations, Personnel Services, Affirmative Action, and Civil Service shall report to the standing committee on Personnel.

7[8]Law

- a. Service Relationship
- b. Department of Law
- c. Public Defender's Office
- d. District Attorney's Office
- e. County Clerk
- f. Board of Elections
- g. Public Access
- h. City and Towns
- i. County Rules
- J. Agency, Department and Inter-Governmental Coordination
- k. Clerk of the Legislature

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to contracts with public corporations and authorities, County law and its structure, operation and maintenance of the offices of Public Defender, District Attorney and County Attorney and also all matters pertaining generally to printing, recording, maintaining, storing and accessibility to County records and matters relating to election accounts.

The District Attorney, the Public Defender, the Commissioner of Jurors, the Clerk of the Courts, the Board of Elections, the Department of Law, the Rape Crisis Center and all court officials under the jurisdiction of the County, the Public Access Officer, the County Clerk and the Clerk of the Legislature shall report to the standing

committee of Law.

8[9]. Mass Transit
a. Airport

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the Airport and mass transit in the County. The Director of the Airport, the Traffic Safety Board and all County agencies involved in transportation shall report to the standing committee on Mass Transit.

[10. Civic Center
a. Arena

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the Civic Center. The Manager and appropriate personnel of the Arena shall report to the standing committee on the Civic Center.]

9. Buildings, Bridges and Roads
a. Albany County Residential Health Care Facilities
b. Albany County Courthouse
c. Civic Center
d. County Buildings
e. Highways
f. Parks and Recreation
g. Water Purification District
h. General Services

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to the Civic Center, and to major construction/renovation projects at the Albany County Courthouse or Albany County Residential Health Care Facility, and all matters pertaining generally to the charge and supervision of design, construction and alterations of County buildings, parking fields, drives, walks, docks, marinas, parks and recreational facilities, preserves, beaches, erosion projects, and such other structures and facilities of the development, maintenance and management of parks and other recreational facilities, also matters pertaining to County facilities for drainage, flood control, sanitation, sewerage and land water supply.

The Manager and appropriate personnel of the Arena, the Departments of General Services, Public Works, Buildings, Parks and Recreation, and the Water Purification District shall report to the standing committee on Building, Roads and Bridges.”

10[11]. Elder Care
a. Department of Aging
b. Albany County Residential Health Care Facilities

Duties: All matters pertaining generally to public welfare and support of the elderly and all matters affecting the Department for Aging and the Albany County Residential Health Care Facility except such matters not relating to services to the elderly.

The Department of Aging and the Albany County Residential Health Care Facility shall report to the standing committee on Elder Care.”

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Legislature forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Legislature and the appropriate County Officials.

Referred to Law Committee - 3/12/18

Favorable Recommendation Law Committee – 8/27/18

Mr. Signoracci proposed the following amendment:

After the Second RESOLVED clause, ADD:

“RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall take effect January 1, 2019, and, be it further”

On roll call the following members voted in favor: Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Fein, Higgins, Hogan, A. Joyce, R. Joyce, Mss. Lekakis, Lockart McKnight, Messrs. Miller O’Brien, Ms. Plotsky, Messrs. Reinhardt, Signoracci, Simpson, Smith, Tunny, Ward and Ms. Willingham – 25

Those opposed: Messrs. Burgdorf, Dawson, Drake, Grimm, Mauriello, Mayo, Mendick and Stevens – 8

Amendment was adopted

On roll call the following members voted in favor as amended: Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Fein, Higgins, Hogan, A. Joyce, R. Joyce, Mss. Lekakis, Lockart McKnight, Messrs. Miller O’Brien, Ms. Plotsky, Messrs. Reinhardt, Signoracci, Simpson, Smith, Tunny, Ward and Ms. Willingham – 25

Those opposed: Messrs. Burgdorf, Dawson, Drake, Grimm, Mauriello, Mayo, Mendick and Stevens – 8

Resolution as amended was adopted – 9/12/18