

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
KENNEDY, OBERACKER, MARIETTA, FARWELL, SHANNON
May 28, 2019

Also Present: Dan Naughton and Heidi Bond

Meg Kennedy stated that the meeting with Steve Acquario scheduled for next month needs to be changed noting that a new date will be determined.

COUNTY GOVERNANCE- DAN NAUGHTON, HEIDI BOND

Representative Kennedy stated that she invited Department heads to attend the meeting to discuss their perspectives, fears, and hopes on the idea of a County Administrator.

Dan Naughton discussed his concerns with having a County Administrator including the loss of authority as a Department Head to hire/terminate employees and write policies. Dan Naughton stated that there are a lot of things within the Probation department that cannot be changed such as policies as they come directly from the State.

The committee suggested that Dan Naughton reach out to Oswego, Green, and Livingston Counties Probation Directors.

Heidi Bond stated that she is comfortable in her role as a department head and the procedures of the department, there are a lot of State mandates and costs are not controlled by the department. Heidi Bond stated that all health departments are run differently but some positive things would be that the Administrator could set goals for the departments and assist new Department heads with their budgets.

The committee discussed the following including but not limited to:

- Administrator would only recommend who to hire and fire
- It will be an appointed position not elected- will give the Board more autonomy
- will need to have an understanding off all departments
- what the advantages are of having someone to help departments with their budgets
- the Administrator could be the Purchasing liaison, could help prioritize things on a larger scale and be the Public Information Officer for the County

Representative Marietta entered the meeting.

- The Board would still have monthly committee meetings to work on goals, policies, and ideas more with the Department heads

Dan Naughton discussed the negative impacts of the bail reform noting that it will tie everyone's hands, people are sometimes placed in jail to save their life, and it will hurt the County. Dan Naughton stated that he will need another Probation Officer due to bail reform and Raise the Age legislation.

The committee discussed spacing needs at 242 Main Street and the need to find out what is there now and who wants to be there.

Dan Naughton stated that he has an officer at least 2-3 days a week at 242 Main Street but their current space is small and not confidential.

Representative Oberacker stated he will send out an email to set up a stakeholders meeting regarding 242 Main Street.

Dan Naughton and Heidi Bond left the meeting.

The committee discussed what the plan is to move forward including the need to pass a Local Law before the end of the year (preferably September), and getting money in the budget.

The committee discussed the need for someone to shepherd the Administrator position through the beginning stages and to have a comprehensive orientation process.

The committee discussed the sales tax numbers noting that the Treasurer's office has reported that it continues to increase.

The committee discussed the budget tool opening in July for department heads and the plan is to start having Budget Committee meetings in July.

Representative Shannon gave an update on the Southern Tier 8 Food Summit that she and Representative Lapin attended noting it was very intensive and feels that there should be a Hemp summit in Otsego County.

The committee discussed funding for Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Ag Implementation Specialist position.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned until Tuesday, June 11th at 9 a.m. at the County Office Building.