

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
CAYUGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MAY 8th, 2007
MEETING 5:15 PM**

Called to order by the Hon. George Fearon, Chairman, Cayuga County Legislature, all Legislators present, except Excused Netti, Sedor, Cuddeback.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MOMENT OF PRAYER:

MINUTES: For reading 2-27-07

COMMITTEE REPORT: None

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: e-mail, please let us know if your e-mail address changes or if you are not receiving e-mail.

RESOLUTION

Motion by Legislator Pappert to reconsider resolution No. 281-07 that was defeated in April, approved by 2/3 vote – Ayes Murphy(14), Palermo(16), Dudley(21), Smith(19), Petrus(15), Lockwood(17), Tortorici(14), Pappert(14), Schuster(13), Lepak(14), Fearon(18) Noes – Mitchell(16) Excused Sedor(21), Cuddeback(18), Netti(14) 175/16/53
Motion by Legislator Pappert to amend resolution to specify where money goes, adding (WHEREAS, the County wishes to further clarify how the revenue will be allocated; and (RESOLVED, that the request is to include in the Home Rule Statute the following language relating to allocation of revenues: “The remaining ninety-five (95%) of said revenue shall be allocated and paid to a single not for profit corporation under contract with the county for the tourism promotion and convention development in the county.”)Amendment approved by majority vote Ayes – Murphy(51), Palermo(58),Dudley(81), Petrus(53), Lockwood(63), Tortorici(51), Pappert(49), Schuster(47), Lepak(48), Fearon(63) Noes – Smith(68), Mitchell(57) Excused – Sedor(79), Cuddeback(64), Netti(50) 564/125/193

RESOLUTION NO. 292-07 5/8/07

Planning-HOMERULE-IncRoomTax(Rev4)

REQUESTING STATE HOME RULE LEGISLATION TO INCREASE THE HOTEL AND MOTEL ROOM TAX FROM 3% TO 5% AND SPECIFYING HOW REVENUES ARE ALLOCATED

BY: MR. SCHUSTER, Chairman, Planning & Economic Development Committee, and

MR. DUDLEY, Chairman, Ways & Means Committee.

WHEREAS, the Tourism Industry is recognized as a key economic sector in Cayuga County, resulting in over \$64 million dollars in annual visitor spending, generating over \$1.5 million dollars in County taxes by visitors and accounting for over 960 jobs in Cayuga County; and

WHEREAS, the recent Randall Travel Marketing Study of Cayuga County Tourism, funded in part by Cayuga County, identified strategic investment areas for expanded marketing and promotion of County tourism that will increase the number of visitors and generate new tourism revenues and jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Hotel and Motel Room Tax paid by visiting tourists is the primary revenue source dedicated to Cayuga County tourism marketing and promotion efforts; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cayuga presently has authority to collect a Hotel and Motel Room Tax in the amount of 3%; and

WHEREAS, in a survey of all Cayuga County rooms, over 81% of the hotels, motels and inns responding to the survey, including all of the largest facilities in the County, supported an increase in the Hotel and Motel Room Tax from 3% to 5%, in order to generate additional revenues dedicated to tourism marketing and promotion in Cayuga County; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to further clarify how the revenue will be allocated; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature wishes to increase the Hotel and Motel Room Tax from 3% to 5%; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that this County Legislature hereby requests our State Legislators, Senator Michael Nozzolio, Senator David Valesky, Assemblyman Gary Finch, Assemblyman Robert Oaks and Assemblyman Brian Kolb, to prepare a Home Rule Statute giving the County of Cayuga authority to increase the Hotel and Motel Room Tax from 3% to 5%; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the request is to include in the Home Rule Statute the following language relating to allocation of revenues: “The remaining ninety-five (95%) of said revenue shall be allocated and paid to a single not for profit corporation under contract with the county for the tourism promotion and convention development in the county.”

Signed by Dudley, Lockwood, Murphy, Petrus, Schuster, Tortorici.

Approved as amended by majority vote Ayes – Murphy(51), Dudley(81), Petrus(53), Lockwood(63), Tortorici(51), Pappert(49), Schuster(47), Lepak(48), Fearon(63) Noes – Palermo(58), Smith(68), Mitchell(57) Excused – Sedor(79), Cuddeback(64), Netti(50) 506/183/193

Motion to adjourn by Legislator Linda Murphy 5:30PM, motion approved by voice vote, all present voting aye.

Minutes approved by the Legislature on 7-24-07, all present voting aye.