

MINUTES

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

JULY 1, 2008 5:10 P.M. COURTHOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: M. Hattery, Chair (arrived at 5:12 p.m.); D. Kiefer; M. Sigler; G. Stevenson; P. Mackesey

Staff: C. Covert, Clerk of the Legislature; S. Whicher, County Administrator; M. Lynch, Public Information Officer

Guest: T. Ashmore, Ithaca Journal reporter

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Mr. Sigler.

History Center

Resolution

It was MOVED by Ms. Kiefer, seconded by Ms. Mackesey, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval.

Mr. Hattery arrived at this time.

Following a brief discussion concerning the cost of rent for the existing space, Mr. Whicher said it is 50 percent of what the current market rate of that particular space is. This proposal is part of a long-range integrated plan and encouraged the Committee to support the resolution.

A voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes – 4, Noes – 1 (Hattery). RESOLUTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. – APPROPRIATION FROM CONTINGENT FUND AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE MULTI-YEAR AGREEMENT - THE HISTORY CENTER

WHEREAS, the County wishes to enter into an agreement with The History Center, formerly known as the Dewitt Historical Society, to maintain a public museum and procure, store, and preserve the records and artifacts that document the history of the County and the municipalities thereof, and

WHEREAS, for over fifty years the County has maintained a relationship with The History Center related to the cost of maintaining space for the aforementioned services, and

WHEREAS, the County first provided space for the agency for the operation of a County Historical Museum in 1939 in the Old Tompkins County Courthouse (County Board Resolution of December 20, 1939), and

WHEREAS, the County continued its commitment to The History Center and its services by compensating the agency for its occupancy costs at the Historic Clinton House in 1973 (County Board Resolution 138 of May 29, 1973), and

WHEREAS the agency's move to the Historic Clinton House was prompted by the County as a result of the County's initiative for the adaptive restoration of the Old Court House, and

WHEREAS, the County further continued its commitment to The History Center and its services by compensating the agency for its occupancy costs following the agency's latest move to the Dean Building in 1993,

WHEREAS, the County wishes to continue its commitment to the agency and enter into a five-year agreement, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations and the Budget and Capital Committees, That beginning January 1, 2009 and expiring December 31, 2013, the County shall

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compensate The History Center for occupancy costs (rent for space and parking, insurance, and security) as follows:

2009 - \$88,228
2010 --\$90,840
2011 - \$93,401
2012 - \$96,171
2013 - \$99,026

RESOLVED, further, That the County shall also compensate The History Center a one-time payment in 2008 for a sum not to exceed \$10,000 as reimbursement for prior years' occupancy-cost shortfalls,

RESOLVED, further, That the Comptroller is authorized to make the following adjustment:

| | | |
|------------|--------------------|----------|
| 1990.54400 | Contingency Fund | \$10,000 |
| 7510.54400 | The History Center | \$10,000 |

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or his designee is authorized to sign all documents related to this agreement,

RESOLVED, further, That the County and The History Center shall develop a Memorandum of Understanding detailing the Center's obligation(s) to the County with respect to records and artifacts in return for the County's contribution to the cost of maintaining space for The History Center in Tompkins County. Any materials pertinent to Tompkins County history shall not be de-accessioned without the County Historian's and Record Officer's review and approval.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.