

SPECIAL SESSION
Herkimer County Legislature
First Quarter – Fourth Day
Friday, February 26, 2021
9:00 a.m.

The Special Session of the Herkimer County Legislature was called to order by Chairman Vincent J. Bono at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Bono called on Legislator Patrick Russell, to lead the Legislature in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bono requested everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence in recognition and honor of all the current and past veterans of Herkimer County.

The Clerk called the roll, the following answered:

Present: Malta, Gaworecki, Schrader, Hollum, Stephens, Keeler, Brezinski, Manno, Smith, Bono, Donley, Campione, Russell, Shaw, Weakley (15).

Absent: Johnson, Ackerman, (2).

Quorum present.

The Clerk read the Notice of the Special Session.

Chairman Bono stated that the communications received by the Legislature and the committees to which they were referred were as listed on the agenda and asked if any member of the Legislature requested mention of any particular communication. There were no requests.

No. 57 – A communication was received from the Chairman of the Legislature requesting Special Session. Filed.

No. 58 – A communication was received from the County Property Agent requesting tax parcel be restored to assessment roll. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

On motion of Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Stephens, Report and Resolution No. 50 sponsored by the Committee on Ways & Means directing restoration of parcel in the Town of Frankfort to the taxable portion of the assessment roll was handed up; discussion was held; was voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (15). Against: None. Absent: Johnson, Ackerman, (2).

Mr. Schrader: “All of the taxes are back paid on this, correct?”

Mr. Bono: "The taxes are paid from 2013 through 2016. The remaining taxes are not. We need to do this by March 1st in order to get the school taxes. Those other taxes are gone. But going forward we would receive taxes on the property, that's why we are having the special session."

Mr. Schrader: "Right but what I am saying is they don't have any past due taxes on the property since it was in In Rem?"

Kim Enea: "No they do not."

Mr. Schrader: "Ok so then we are good to go. Thanks Kim I appreciate that. Can I ask why this was taken off? I think I remember this being taken off because of environmental reasons, correct?"

Chairman Bono: "There were concerns that there may be potential environmental reasons there. The IDA, in trying to help this business, did some research, we looked at the EPA and DEC listings and this property is not on any of their listings so to me it is deemed sellable. If down the road we end up taking this property back in In Rem I think it would be sold very easily. It is a block building, it has city water which makes it more attractable. They are working out of there not paying taxes, this company. They should be paying taxes, it sets a bad example in my eyes and I'm sure others' too. Especially when you get grants."

Mr. Schrader: "This company is the one that just got awarded all that money from the state, correct?"

Chairman Bono: "They got two awards totaling close to \$800,000. I don't know how the state gives them awards like that being in arrears of taxes and not even asking. I know it is a sensitive issue especially with the product they make. But in any regard fair is fair. Other people are paying their taxes, they need to pay their taxes too."

Mr. Schrader: "Didn't they make a comment on the television that they were also occupying another facility in Oneida County or is that not true?"

Chairman Bono: "They are actively searching for another facility. I don't know where, it could very well be Oneida County. In any regard, even if they are, we need to do what we need to do, I think."

Mr. Schrader: "No I am not disagreeing with that, I just want to get all the information we can. Thank you."

On motion of Mr. Manno, seconded by Mr. Keeler, this Special Session of the Herkimer County Legislature was adjourned at 9:06 a.m.



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 50

REPORT AND RESOLUTION DIRECTING RESTORATION OF PARCEL IN THE TOWN OF FRANKFORT TO THE TAXABLE PORTION OF THE ASSESSMENT ROLL

Sponsored by: Committee on Ways & Means

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 28 of 2016, this Legislature determined that there was no practical method to enforce the collection of a delinquent tax lien against premises located at 2676 Southside Road in the Town of Frankfort, having Tax Map No. 104.4-1-38, and further directed the enforcing officer to issue a certificate of prospective cancellation for that parcel; and

WHEREAS, since that time a search of Department of Environmental Conservation databases has not revealed any evidence of contamination and the premises are being used for business operations; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated February 24, 2021, from Jennifer Casey, County Property Agent, she has requested restoration of the parcel to the taxable portion of the assessment roll; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that for the above described reasons, the premises located at 2676 Southside Road in the Town of Frankfort, now having Tax Map No. 104.4-1-38.1, shall be restored to the taxable portion of the assessment roll; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the enforcing officer is hereby directed to issue a certificate of restoration setting forth the relevant facts with the Assessor and County Director of Real Property Tax Services; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, County Property Agent, the Assessor for the Town of Frankfort, and Director of Real Property Tax Services.

Dated: February 26, 2021.