Date: 9/23/22

TO: Department Heads
    Legislators
    Press
    Public

FROM: Emilee D. Miller, Clerk of the Yates County Legislature

RE: Special Legislative Meeting

NOTICE

The Yates County Legislature will meet in special session on October 11, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. in the Legislative Chambers located at 417 Liberty St., Penn Yan, NY 14527 to ask questions and discuss concerns with Senator Tom O’Mara and Assemblyman Phillip Palmesano.

Zoom information:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:
   Please click this URL to join.
   https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84188826123?pwd=NmVyVzZVK3FrK1xWXhLUk5selh2dz09

Webinar ID: 841 8882 6123
Passcode: 790555

Or One tap mobile:
   +16469313860,,84188826123# US
   +16465588656,,84188826123# US (New York)

Or join by phone:
   Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
   US: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 646 558 8656
Meeting with Senator O'Mara & Assemblyman Palmesano

Questions, Comments, & Topics

1. We have been waiting for a long time to hear from NYSEG on whether BQ’s application has been approved for the needed 20 megawatts for us to move forward with solar panels at our closed landfill. Is this something either of them could assist us with?

2. We are still waiting on NYS DOH reconciliation of our enhanced Federal (eFMAP) reimbursement. Our last reconciliation was for NYS fiscal year 2015-16 and we received that payment on 12/13/17. We are owed well over $700k from NYS. Where does NYS stand with this reconciliation?

3. The new gun laws require a “license” for semi-automatic rifles. What will it take to exempt semi-automatic rimfire rifles from the need for a license?

4. Is there any possibility that microstamping can be removed from the gun laws? There is no reliable process for accomplishing that requirement.

5. Is it true that the new gun laws prohibit concealed carry on public sidewalks? If so, how can anyone legally walk from one place of business that permits concealed carry to another? What can be done to change that situation?

6. No bail- dangerous, dumb law, how can we protect citizens and return to using bail?

7. New gun laws- likely unconstitutional infringement on 2nd amendment rights.

8. How much longer is the NYS Legislature and Senate going to continue to extent the Governor’s executive powers going forward?

9. How will NYS be able to have enough electrically powered municipal equipment available such as snowplows, fire engines, ambulances etc. available at the State level even before Counties, Towns and Villages have access to them also in the future per the future laws that are to go into effect?

10. How will NYS Agriculture, Construction, Transportation and the private sector have access also to exist?
11. What are the NYS Labor and Employment Department’s plans and future involvement in the maintaining of our NYS agricultural enterprises workforce’s?

12. What are their abilities to be and how are they going to meet the employment requirements needed to maintain their daily output of food production as there are now to be new employee wage schedules in the future that are not attainable and profitable enough to survive?

13. How are we pushing back against the new gun laws?

14. What are we doing to get the guns out of the hands of the person who does not have a permit?

15. Now that COVID 19 mandates have relaxed in NYC, how are you representing our rural community in regard to early voting and same day voting? Many citizens in Yates County have expressed the desire to go back to same day voting as the expense, time and effort are needlessly being spent on this effort. It puts us in the position of needing to close polling sites and the first site to be looked at is the Himrod site. Although this site is much needed as the Mennonite community is disadvantaged in regard to transportation and work schedules, it is poorly attended until there are topic for which the Mennonites want to vote.

16. We are having an increased need for mental health services. Availability of services and transportation to services is challenging at best. The statement was made that the youth in our county are not the youth that we had 10 years ago. There is a problem with violence that we have not seen. There are limited places to house our youth to get the help that they need. New York State makes mandates without provision or a complete plan. Our sheriff had to wait approx. 2 weeks for a MD to address the mental health needs of a prisoner who was on suicide watch. This was due to lack of staff from our local hospital. We have lost our mental health in-service floor in our hospital as well.

17. Bail reform is not working. How can that be changed?

18. What is being done to address the violation of privacy in regard to the sale of ammunition and the reporting to the government?

19. Conversion to renewable energy is a NYS priority with goals already set for conversion to power generation, electric vehicles and some building codes. But the power distribution systems are stopping or severely stalling solar projects across Yates County. What is NYS doing to improve the power distribution systems?

20. Also related to solar project installations, which are becoming more popular in Yates County, is NYS looking at any statewide regulations or incentives to site these on land that is not productive farmland?

21. EMS agencies, both BLS and ALS, across NYS are severely struggling with staffing and/or response times. Volunteers are dwindling and paid staff availability, like in other healthcare, is just not there to meet the need. Covid and resulting inflation have exacerbated this situation. While there have been various proposals by State officials on ways to help improve this area,
little seems to have been accomplished and the situation is now critical for many agencies. What is being done to address this urgent issue?

22. Are you in support of passing the Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach (CVSO) Act (H.R. 4601)?