

**RULES OF THE  
COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
COUNTY OF SULLIVAN  
NEW YORK**

Rev. 10/15/98, 6/17/99, 8/27/99, 2/28/00, 1/23/03, 3/15/03, 5/17/07, 1/2/08, 8/15/13, 7/19/18,  
11/21/19, 1/23/2020 & 1/28/2021

INTRODUCTION

RULE 1. APPLICABILITY: The Sullivan County Legislature and its committees shall conduct their meetings in accordance with these Rules. These Rules shall be interpreted by the Executive Committee. Amendments and additional rules shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions of Rule 60 after consideration by the said Committee. In absence of a rule or order not covered by these Rules, Roberts' Rules of Order shall govern. These Rules shall continue in effect until modified or amended and shall govern the procedure of the organization meeting of the Legislature.

RULE 2. DEFINITIONS: Unless the context requires a different meaning, the terms set forth herein shall have the following meaning:

- (a) County: County of Sullivan
- (b) Legislature: County Legislature
- (c) Chair: Chairman of the Legislature
- (d) Vice Chair: Vice Chair of the Legislature
- (e) Clerk: Clerk of the Legislature
- (f) Rules: Rules of the Legislature
- (g) Legislative Oversight: All manner of supervision properly exercised by an elected legislative body and its committees including but not limited to review, study and investigation of the operations, programs and proposals of a department or agency of the County.

The County Legislature at its organizational meeting, shall elect from its membership a Chair and a Vice Chair pursuant to the provisions of the Sullivan County Code.

RULE 2A. MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS: Annually, the enrolled members of the two political parties which shall have the greatest number of members seated in the Legislature, shall elect a leader of the respective parties, in caucus, prior to the first committee meeting of a year in which the Legislature organizes. The leader of the political party whose membership of the Legislature constitutes a majority of the Legislature shall be known as the Majority Leader. The leader of the other party shall be known as the Minority Leader. In the event that neither

the members of one party nor the other constitute a majority of the members of the County Legislature, then in said event, the Chairman of the County Legislature shall designate one party leader as the Majority Leader and the other as the Minority Leader for the purpose of budgetary appropriation and other matters.

#### MEETINGS

RULE 3. REGULAR MEETINGS: The regular monthly meeting of the Legislature shall be set annually by the Chairman after consultation with the remaining members of the Legislature.

RULE 4. A. SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings of the Legislature shall be held at the call of the Clerk upon direction of the Chair or the Vice Chair, or upon written request signed by a majority of the members of the Legislature. Notice in writing stating the time, place and purpose of the special meeting shall be served personally or by facsimile transmission or by telephone or by mail upon each member of the Legislature at least forty-eight hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting or a member may waive the service of the notice for such meetings by a writing signed by him/her. Business not specified in the notice may be transacted in the special meeting upon the discretion of the presiding officer or upon the approval of a majority of the members of the Legislature.

B. EMERGENCY MEETINGS: Emergency meetings are those whose subject matter mandates, in the opinion of the Chair, the Vice Chair or a majority of the members of the Legislature, that said meeting be called with less than forty-eight hours notice. The meeting shall be called at the request of the Chair, the Vice Chair or a majority of the members of the Legislature upon such notice to each member of the Legislature, the public and/or the media as is practicable under the circumstances.

RULE 5. LOCATION OF MEETINGS: All meetings of the Legislature shall be held at the Legislature's Chambers at the Sullivan County Government Center, Monticello, New York, unless provided otherwise by a motion for adjournment or by the call for a special or emergency meeting.

RULE 6. OPEN MEETINGS: Every meeting of the Legislature, except executive sessions, shall be open to members of the public and media in compliance with the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York.

RULE 7. QUORUM: A majority of the whole number of the membership of the Legislature shall

constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn any meeting of the Legislature from time to time. Members appearing via electronic means shall be included in the quorum count. Members may only appear via electronic means under emergency or exigent circumstances. Members may only appear via electronic means upon the approval of the presiding officer or upon approval of a majority of the members of the Legislature.

RULE 8. CONVENING OF MEETING: The Chair, or in the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair, shall call the meeting of the Legislature to order at the time appointed therefor, and shall be the presiding officer. Upon the appearance of a quorum, the Clerk shall call the roll of Legislators inserting the names of those absent in the minutes. In the event a Legislator arrives late or departs early, the minutes shall so reflect. In the event a quorum is not present, the Legislators present shall request the Clerk to call an adjourned meeting upon appropriate notice.

RULE 9. MINUTES; APPROVAL; MODIFICATIONS; COPIES: The Clerk shall take minutes of all meetings of the Legislature. The minutes of each meeting of the Legislature shall be deemed to be approved without formal motion unless a Legislator desires to make an objection, alteration or addition. The minutes of each meeting shall be transcribed and made available to each member of the Legislature or the public at the Clerk's Office at least three days prior to the next regular meeting, except that the minutes of a special meeting or emergency meeting shall be transcribed and made available at the Clerk's office within one week following said meeting.

RULE 10. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- (a) The order of business at each regular meeting of the Legislature shall be as follows:
- (1) Roll call of Legislators.
  - (2) Reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting in whole or in part, upon the request of a Legislator. (In the absence of any objection or corrections, the minutes shall stand approved without formal motion and without having been read aloud.) (Rule 9)
  - (3) Presentation of communications.
  - (4) Public comment in accordance with Rule 11 (b).
  - (5) Unfinished business.
  - (6) Presentation of pre-filed resolutions, laws, acts, ordinances, etc., by committees and members of the Legislature for discussion and vote.
  - (7) Presentation of other motions, resolutions, laws, acts, ordinances, etc.,

and new business.

- (8) Good and welfare pursuant to Rule 11(c).
  - (9) Recognition of Legislators.
  - (10) Announcements from the Chair.
  - (11) Meeting adjournment or close.
- (b) The order of business at a special or emergency meeting of the Legislature shall be as follows:
- (1) Roll call of Legislators.
  - (2) Reading of Notice of Meeting.
  - (3) Presentation of Motions, Resolutions, laws or other business for which the meeting was called.
  - (4) Other business in order.
  - (5) Announcements from the Chair.
  - (6) Meeting Adjournment or close.
- (c) The order of business at a public hearing of the Legislature shall be as follows:
- (1) Roll call of Legislators.
  - (2) Reading of the Notice of Public Hearing.
  - (3) Reading of local law or other matter for which hearing is required.
  - (4) Public comment in accordance with Rule 11(b).
  - (5) Public Hearing adjournment or close.

**RULE 11. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS; PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

- (a) The business of the Legislature at a regular meeting thereof, shall be conducted by the members of the Legislature. Staff of the County of Sullivan may be requested to provide information that is relevant to any subject under discussion before the Legislature.
- (b) A member of the public shall be permitted to make a statement at any regular meeting or public hearing of the Legislature on any issue for a period of not more than three (3) minutes each in the discretion of the presiding officer. Public comment at a public hearing shall be limited to the subject matter presented at that public hearing. Such period shall commence after the Clerk shall have read any communication received by the Legislature other than statements filed by a speaker. Any speaker may file with the Clerk a written statement, such written statement shall constitute a part of the Annual Proceedings of the Legislature, but such statement shall not be read by the Clerk.

- (c) During good and welfare, the presiding officer may permit public comment on any matter. The length of each comment, as well as the length of this portion of the meeting shall solely be in the discretion of the presiding officer.

#### DEBATE AND VOTING

- RULE 12. PRESIDING OFFICER: The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Legislature at which the Chair is present, preserve order and decorum and confine discussion to the matter at issue. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall preside at the meeting with all of the powers and authority of the Chair. The presiding officer shall decide all questions of order, subject to appeal by a member. Except as provided in these Rules, the presiding officer may participate in debate and vote on any question before the Legislature.
- RULE 12A. PARLIAMENTARIAN: The Chair shall, at the organizational meeting, appoint a Parliamentarian to assist and advise the presiding officer on questions of order.
- RULE 13. APPEALS: On an appeal of the presiding officer's decision on a question of order, the presiding officer may first present the reason for a decision after which any Legislator may speak once thereon before the presiding officer puts the questions, "Shall the presiding officer's ruling be sustained?" The question will be decided without debate by a majority of the Legislature, including the presiding officer's vote. The presiding officer shall have a vote on an appeal.
- RULE 14. DEBATE; RECOGNITION: Each Legislator by raising a hand shall be recognized by the presiding officer prior to speaking. When two or more Legislators desire recognition by raising their hands simultaneously, the presiding officer shall determine the order of speaking.
- RULE 15. DEBATE; RIGHT TO SPEAK: At the discretion of the presiding officer, no Legislator may speak more than once on any question until all Legislators desiring to speak shall have spoken.
- RULE 16. DEBATE; LIMITS; OUT OF ORDER: Legislators shall limit their discussion to the matter before the Legislature and shall speak for a reasonable time. If the presiding officer shall decide that a Legislator has spoken for more than a reasonable time or is otherwise not acting in conformity to the decorum required by these rules, the presiding officer may interrupt the Legislator and require the Legislator to conclude his/her discussion or call such Legislator out of order. A Legislator called out of order shall immediately cease debate unless the presiding

officer shall permit an explanation.

- RULE 17. DEBATE; PRIVATE DISCUSSION: While a Legislator is addressing the presiding officer, no other Legislator shall entertain any private discourse, walk about the room, or pass between a speaker and the presiding officer.
- RULE 18. METHOD OF ACTION: Except as otherwise expressly provided by law, the power of the Legislature shall be exercised through a local law, resolution, or motion duly adopted by the Legislature.
- RULE 19. VOTING; METHOD OF VOTING: All votes of the Legislature shall be by aye or nay unless otherwise required by law. Upon the request of a Legislator or if required by law, the Clerk will take a roll call vote in numerical order Legislative Districts #1 through #9 and Legislative Districts #9 through #1 on an alternating basis and record said vote in the minutes next to each Legislator's name. When a roll call vote is not required or requested, the Clerk shall record in the minutes next to each Legislator's name an "Aye" vote unless a Legislator shall specifically vote "Nay". An abstention shall not be counted as a vote.
- RULE 20. ABSTENTIONS: Each member who participates in meetings either in person or via electronic means, when a question is stated by the Chairman must cast their vote on the same. The only exception to this procedure is when a member who, after stating the reason, abstains from voting because such member seeks to avoid a conflict of interest, as defined by law including but not limited to the 2013 Ethics Law of the County. If a member wrongfully attempts to avoid casting their vote, abstain, or otherwise refuses to vote, the Chairman shall direct the Clerk to record such member's vote in the affirmative on the question or matter being voted upon.
- RULE 21. VOTING; ADOPTION: Except as provided by Rules 22 and 36, a question before the Legislature shall be adopted only when it receives a majority of the vote of the entire number of Legislators.
- RULE 22. VOTING; ADOPTION; 2/3 VOTE: Every local law or resolution of the Legislature legalizing informal acts of a town board meeting, village election, town or village officers, authorizing the contracting of a funded debt, taking a vote pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law §20(4) under a certificate of necessity, or as may otherwise be specified by law, shall require for its passage two-thirds of the vote of the entire number of Legislators.

RULE 23. VOTING; EQUALLY DIVIDED VOTE: An equally divided vote on any matter before the Legislature shall be deemed a defeat and the question shall be lost.

### RESOLUTIONS

RULE 24. RESOLUTIONS; FILING: Unless unanimous consent of the Legislators present is given to its presentation, no resolution shall be in order unless filed, in writing, with the Clerk prior to noon of the third business day, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays, preceding the meeting at which it is to be offered. This rule shall not apply to the organization meeting, any special or emergency meeting, meetings held in the month of December, or in the month of January in the year in which the Legislature organizes.

RULE 25. RESOLUTIONS; FORM, CAPTIONS, OFFERORS, NUMBERING; DISTRIBUTION: Each resolution shall state the name of the Committee or Legislator offering same and the subject matter thereof. Upon adoption, resolutions shall be consecutively numbered and shall state the names of the Legislators moving and seconding same. The Clerk shall provide certified copies upon request of all adopted resolutions to the departments or agencies having an interest therein. Nothing contained in these rules shall prevent a Legislator from offering any resolution for consideration by the Legislature at a regular meeting, except that a resolution tabled by a committee cannot be brought to the floor of the Legislature for a vote by an individual Legislator(s) unless and until the resolution shall have been withdrawn by the committee. A resolution tabled by a committee cannot be voted upon by another committee unless specifically tabled to that committee for the purpose of a discussion and vote thereon. A resolution tabled by a committee cannot be tabled more than twice by that committee; after the second table, if it is not voted upon at the next regular meeting of that committee, then it shall be deemed withdrawn.

RULE 26. RESOLUTIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE: Unless a different date is specified, all resolutions shall become effective upon their adoption.

RULE 27. RESOLUTIONS; AGENDA; COPIES; DUTIES OF THE CLERK: Every resolution filed with the Clerk in accordance with Rule 24 shall be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting. The Clerk shall prepare for each regular meeting copies of each resolution to be acted upon and have same available to the members and the public twenty-four (24) hours prior to the



time of the meeting, except late-filed resolutions. All Resolutions to be placed on the agenda of a special or emergency meeting shall be prepared by the Clerk and distributed as soon as possible prior to the meeting of which action is to be taken thereon.

RULE 28. RESOLUTIONS; SECOND REQUIRED: Except with respect to nominations, no motion shall be stated, debated or put unless it is seconded.

RULE 29. RESOLUTIONS; WRITTEN FORM: Every motion shall be stated by the presiding officer or read by the Clerk before debate and before the question is taken. Every motion shall be reduced to writing if the Chair or any other Legislator desires. In the discretion of the presiding officer, a number of resolutions can be read and voted upon in a block.

RULE 30. RESOLUTIONS; WITHDRAWAL; CONSENT: After a motion is stated by the Clerk or the presiding officer, it shall be in possession of the Legislature, but may be withdrawn by the introducer at any time before a vote or amendment, if no objection is made. If objection is made, then the same may be withdrawn with the consent of a majority of the vote of the Legislature.

RULE 31. RESOLUTIONS; DIVISION: If the matter in debate contains several distinct propositions, any Legislator may have the same divided.

RULE 32. RESOLUTIONS; PRIORITY: All questions relating to the priority of one question or subject matter over another, under the same order of business, shall be decided by the Chair without debate.

RULE 33. RESOLUTIONS; OTHER MOTIONS: When a motion is under debate, no other motion shall be entertained except a motion:

- (a) For an adjournment of the Meeting.
- (b) For a roll call of the Legislature.
- (c) For the previous question.
- (d) To lay on the table.
- (e) To postpone to a certain date.
- (f) To commit to a Standing or Special Committee.
- (g) To amend.

- RULE 34. RESOLUTIONS; TABLING: Any motion to lay a question on the table shall be decided without amendment or debate and shall preclude all amendments to the main question.
- RULE 35. RESOLUTIONS, TABLING; REMOVING FROM TABLE: All reports, resolutions and other matters laid on the table may be called therefrom under "unfinished business" in the regular order of business.
- RULE 36. RESOLUTIONS; LAYING OVER QUESTIONS; ORDER OF BUSINESS: All questions laid over by rule or by request of any Legislator for one day shall be considered in order on the succeeding day, or at the next session, under the heading of "unfinished business" as decided by the presiding officer. Such decision may be overruled by a vote of two-thirds of the Legislature.
- RULE 37. RESOLUTIONS; RECONSIDERATION: A motion to reconsider any resolution or motion can only be entertained by the presiding officer when moved by a Legislator who originally voted with the majority thereon, when such motion to reconsider is to be voted upon at the same meeting. A motion to reconsider requires a vote of a majority of the committee or voting members of the Legislature at a scheduled legislative meeting.
- RULE 38. RESOLUTIONS; MOTION TO ADJOURN: Unless a vote is in progress, a motion for a meeting's adjournment shall be decided without debate and shall always be in order.

#### COMMITTEES

- RULE 39. COMMITTEES: The following shall constitute the Standing Committees of the Legislature:
- (a) Executive Committee (Rule 45)
  - (b) Management and Budget Committee (Rule 46)
  - (c) Government Services Committee (Rule 47)
  - (d) Public Works Committee (Rule 48)
  - (e) Health and Family Services Committee (Rule 49)
  - (f) Economic Development Committee (Rule 51)
  - (g) Public Safety & Law Enforcement Committee (Rule 52)
  - (h) Veterans Committee (Rule 53)
  - (i) Planning, Community Development Real Property, etc. (Rule 54)
  - (j) Human Resources Committee (Rule 50)
  - (k) Parks, Agriculture & Sustainability Committee (Rule 55)

RULE 40. COMMITTEES; APPOINTMENT: Appointment of members of the Legislature to its committees, except the Executive Committee and the Public Works Committee, is the sole responsibility and duty of the Chair. The Chair will appoint the Committee Chair, Committee Vice Chair and members within twenty days after the Chair's election, and file a list of said committees with the Clerk. The Chair shall serve ex-officio on any Legislative committee which the Chair has the power to appoint. Each committee shall, to the extent possible, have as a member at least one member of the minority party on the Legislature. Additional Committees, temporary or standing, may be authorized by the Legislature who's Committee Chair and membership shall be appointed by the Chair. Members may be replaced in accordance with Rule 56.

RULE 41. COMMITTEES; MEETINGS; LOCATION: All standing Committees other than the Veterans' Committee shall have regular monthly meetings, as well as special, recessed and emergency meetings as necessary. All committee meetings shall be held at the Legislative Chambers at the Sullivan County Government Center, Monticello, New York or at such other location as the Committee Chair may direct. The Committee Chairs shall file with the Clerk annually, the dates and times of the regular meetings of the committees. Notice of special meetings and emergency meetings shall follow the procedure set forth in Rule 4.

RULE 42. COMMITTEES; OPEN MEETINGS; MINUTES; QUORUM; VOTE: All committee meetings shall be public, unless an executive session is called. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the membership of the Committee. Favorable action by a Committee shall require the vote of a majority of the membership of the committee. In the absence of the Committee Chair, the Committee Vice Chair shall preside at a meeting.

RULE 43. COMMITTEES; DUTIES OF CLERK: The Clerk shall print the list of committees, their membership, dates and times of regular meetings and distribute said list to each member of the Legislature, each county division, department and agency, and each town and village clerk. The Clerk shall transcribe minutes of the committee proceedings.

#### DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

RULE 44. DUTIES OF COMMITTEES: Committees shall have jurisdiction over the departments and agencies under their control as defined in the Sullivan County Code and perform such other

duties as may be therein or herein set forth.

RULE 45. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the membership of the Legislature with the powers and duties set forth in Section A2-10 of the Sullivan County Code. The Executive Committee shall meet on the call of the Chair or at the request of any four members.

RULE 46. MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET COMMITTEE: The functions of the Management and Budget Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the Division of Management and Budget, Office of Audit and Control, County Treasurer (except matters related to real property tax enforcement functions), Information Technology Services, Grants Administration, Payroll and Risk Management and agencies set forth in Sections A4-2, A6-1, A6-2, A6-3, A7-2 of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Review and recommend action with respect to all resolutions relating to appropriations, issuance of bonds and notes, and other matters of county finance.
- (c) Review budget estimates and formulate, with the County Manager, the tentative budget, and review and recommend action with respect to adoption of the budget.
- (d) Review of all claims which have been audited and paid.
- (e) Legislative oversight over all the financial and administrative actions and functions of county divisions, departments, and agencies.
- (f) Oversee and recommend action on all matters relating to the Sullivan County Self-Insurance Plan.

RULE 47. GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE: The functions of the Government Services Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of Department of Purchasing and Central Services, Office of the County Clerk, Sullivan County Community College and Cornell Cooperative Extension set forth in Sections A2-9A(2), A4-4, a7-2d of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Oversee all matters relating to elections.
- (c) Except as provided by Rule 52, approve all purchases, and all bids and contracts for purchases and public work, submitted by the Department of Purchasing and Central Services.

RULE 48. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: The functions of the Public Works Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

Membership: The Public Works Committee shall have a membership consisting of the Chair of the Legislature, the Chairs of the Committees on Management and Budget; Planning, Community Development, Real Property and Capital Planning and Budgeting Committee, and four additional members selected by the Chair. The Chair shall also select a Chair for the Committee.

- (a) Legislative oversight of the divisions, departments, and agencies set forth in Sections A2-9A(7), A7-3, A7-4A-I, and A7-5 AND A7-4H of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Review and recommend action with respect to the construction, reconstruction and improvement of all County roads and bridges.
- (c) Oversee cooperation with the federal, state and local agencies having jurisdiction over highways, parks, airports, public transportation and the regulation, construction and improvement thereof; review and recommend action with respect thereto.
- (d) Study and recommend action with respect to public transportation and public facilities relating to the general improvement of transportation in the County.
- (e) Oversee and recommend action with respect to maintenance, repair, improvement and purchases of equipment, furniture and fixtures for all buildings, offices, parks and grounds, and approve the acquisition, repair and disposal of all County motor vehicles.
- (f) Review all purchases of equipment by the Commissioner of the Division of Public Works with a value in excess of the amount set forth in Section 133 of the Highway Law for purchases chargeable to the county road machinery fund and in excess of the amount set forth in Section 103 of the General Municipal Law in all other cases; approve and recommend action on all rights of way options. (g) Oversight and recommendation of action with respect to solid waste management and related facilities.
- (h) Oversight and recommendation of action with respect to administration of local laws and other regulations related to solid waste management control.
- (i) Oversight and recommendation of action with respect to recycling programs and the funding and disposition of revenues therefrom.

RULE 49. HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMITTEE: The functions of the Health and Family Services Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the Division of Health and Family Services including Department of Family Services, Community Services, Public Health Services, Adult Care Center, Office for the Aging and Youth Bureau and agencies as set forth in Section A2-9A(3) and A7-6 of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Recommend policy and maintain contact with voluntary associations providing social services to residents of the county.
- (c) Recommend programs for the purpose of preventing and eliminating poverty in the county.
- (d) Review and recommend actions on all matters subject to the New York State Public Health Law, Mental Hygiene Law, Family Court Act, Penal Law, Criminal Procedure Law and other laws and regulations relating to the jurisdiction of the Committee.
- (e) Recommend policy and maintain contact with voluntary associations providing alcohol abuse, drug abuse, mental illness, mental retardation, and other community services to residents of the community. Study and recommend programs for the purpose of treating and caring for those who suffer from these issues.

RULE 50. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE: The functions of the Human Resources Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the Division of Human Resources; Department of Human Resources; Office of Civil Service Administration as set forth in Sections A2-9 (A) (4) A5-2 and Section ( A7-10 (A ) and (B) of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Oversee, review, and recommend, consistent with the provisions of Civil Service Law, Article 10, action relating to the compensation of County officers and employees, including the annual preparation and recommendation of a proposed schedule of salaries and compensation of officers and employees not subject to Article 10 of the Civil Service Law; the hiring, increase and reduction of employees in the County.
- (c) Review with the Commissioner of Human Resources Countywide Human Resource Management and Administration.
- (d) Review with the Personnel Officer, all matters relating to enforcement of the Civil Service Law.
- (e) Review and recommend action with respect to negotiation and ratification of all agreements with employee organizations.
- (f) Review and recommend, consistent with law, action with respect to all employment programs.

RULE 51. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: The functions of the Economic Development Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the departments and agencies set forth in Sections A2- and 9A(5), of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Oversee and approve formulation of a publicity program to encourage economic development within the County.
- (c) Oversee, participate in and recommend action with respect to economic and industrial development, supervise the operations of the County of Sullivan Industrial Development Agency and any local development corporation of the County of Sullivan.

RULE 52. PUBLIC SAFETY / LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: The functions of the Public Safety and Law Enforcement Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the Public Safety, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Protection, Probation Department, E-911, Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office and Coroner's Office and agencies set forth in Sections A2-9A(6), A4-8, and A7-7 of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Review and recommend action with respect to civil defense and disaster preparedness and cooperate with federal, state and local civil defense authorities.

RULE 53. VETERANS COMMITTEE: The functions of the Veterans' Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the department as set forth in Sections A2-9A(9) of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Review and recommend action with respect to veterans' affairs, including assistance; memorials, celebrations, the Sullivan County Veterans' Cemetery and burial of veterans in accordance with law, and foster cooperation with veterans' organizations.

RULE 54. PLANNING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, REAL PROPERTY AND CAPITAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING COMMITTEE: The function of the Planning, Community Development, Real Property Committee and Capital Planning and Budgeting Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the Departments of Planning, Real Property Tax Services and Office of the County Treasurer (tax enforcement functions) as set forth in Section A2-9A(8), A4-1, A5-4, A7-8A, C-H and A7-8 of the Sullivan County Code.

- (b) Compilation of written policy and procedures regarding the handling of properties taken by the County through in rem foreclosure proceedings.
- (c) Review and recommend action with respect to:
  - (1) Levy, collection, and enforcement of all real property taxes and sales taxes.
  - (2) Applications to correct assessment and tax rolls pursuant to the Real Property Tax Law.
  - (3) Determination of the amount of taxes returned as unpaid and the re-levy of same.
  - (4) Adoption of the equalization rates established by the New York State Division of Equalization and Assessment, or in the alternative, upon direction of the Legislature, investigate the ratio and percentage which assessed value of real property bears to the full value of such property and report the percentage for such tax district so determined and recommend action by the Legislature.
  - (5) Adoption of the statement of total valuation, including equalization rates of taxable real property within the County as the basis for the apportionment of the county real property tax levy.
  - (6) Apportionment of all revenue received in the County which is payable to the Villages and Towns.
  - (7) Review of special district charges and recommend adoption of such resolutions as may be necessary to levy same on the tax roll.
  - (8) Oversee all matters relating to reassessment, revaluation, and tax map.
  - (9) Review and recommend action with respect to enforcement and collection of delinquent taxes, manner of bids with respect to sale of real property acquired by tax deed, rejection of bids for real property required by tax deed, retention of title of real property acquired by tax deed and such other methods of disposition of tax title real property as the Committee shall deem appropriate.
  - (10) Review and recommend action with respect to condemnation, purchase, and acquisition of all real estate by the County, including options to purchase such real estate.
  - (11) Oversee and recommend action on all matters relating to County and regional planning.
  - (12) Review, oversight and recommendation of action and fiscal impacts of



capital planning and projects,

(13) Review and oversight of the preparation of the County's six-year Capital Plan.

(14) Review and oversight of capital budgeting and planning analyses.

RULE 55. PARKS, AGRICULTURE & SUSTAINABILITY POLICY COMMITTEE: The functions of the Agriculture & Sustainability Policy Committee shall, but not by way of limitation, include the following:

- (a) Legislative oversight of the departments including Sustainable Energy, Parks, Recreation and Beautification, County Museum and Agriculture Planning as set forth in Section A2-8, A2-9 (10)(11) and A5-8 of the Sullivan County Code.
- (b) Review and oversight and recommendations regarding current and future proposed sustainable principles, practices, policies and goals, as well as sustainability technologies in county facilities, including, but not limited to, "green" building standards, renewable energy, and other "best practices".
- (c) Review of County fleet hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles.

RULE 56. COMMITTEES; REMOVAL; REASSIGNMENT: A member who fails or refuses to serve and fulfill the duties of the Committee to which such member has been appointed may be removed at the discretion of the Chair. The vacancy created by such removal shall be filled by the Chair. At the request of a member, the Chair may change the appointment of a member from one Committee to another Committee. The Clerk shall note the removal, appointment or change of assignment in the minutes.

MISCELLANEOUS

RULE 57. ACCESS BY MEDIA FOR DELAYED OR SIMULTANEOUS TRANSMISSION OF PROCEEDINGS

- (a) All representatives of newspaper, radio and television shall have equal access to county facilities to obtain information, and to attend and report the proceedings of the Legislature or of any of its committees or of any other hearing or proceeding held at the County Government Center by any public body in accordance with the Freedom of Information Law, Open Meetings Law, and these Rules. In compliance therewith, the Clerk may make and enforce reasonable regulations as may be mandated by the circumstances.

RULE 58. RULES; DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY: Nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the

delegation of any powers, duties or responsibilities of the Legislature to any other officer.

- RULE 59. RULES; SUSPENSION: Unless otherwise provided by law, the Legislature may suspend its rules on unanimous vote of the Legislators present and voting at any regular, special or emergency meeting.
- RULE 60. RULES; AMENDMENTS: Unless otherwise provided by law, the Legislature, by a majority vote, may amend these rules upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- RULE 61. EFFECTIVE DATE; CAPTIONS; REPEAL: These Rules shall be effective on the date of adoption by the Legislature. Captions for each rule shall be used for the purpose of identification only and shall not limit the content or meaning of any rule. Any rules heretofore in effect are hereby repealed.

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