

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M I N U T E S
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

JULY 11, 1973

Present

Senators: Berry
Brennan
Danton
MacLeod
Sewall

Representatives: Birt
Hewes
Martin
McTeague
Simpson

Jon Doyle
Suzanne Havens
William Garside

The organizational meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Office of the President of the Senate, Augusta, Maine on July 11, 1973. The meeting was called to order by Sen. Kenneth MacLeod, Chairman Pro Tem, at 10:00 a.m.

NOMINATED AND ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION:

Chairman: Rep. Larry E. Simpson

Vice Chairman: Sen. Joseph E. Brennan

Recording Secretary: Jo Glidden

MOTION

Rep. Martin: that the present Law Librarian, Director of Legislative Research and Legislative Finance Officer be reaffirmed to serve the remainder of their six-year terms at their current salaries--the salaries passed in the emergency legislation by the 106th Maine Legislature.

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Motion carried unanimously

MOTION

Rep. Birt: that the appointment of a Legislative Administrative Director and a Constituent Services Officer be tabled.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Motion carried unanimously

MOTION

Rep. Martin: that the six staff members, Roland Berry, Robert Clarke, Thomas Downing, Suzanne Havens, Robert Frates and George Viles, be hired as of the effective date of Chapter 590 and that their present salaries be the same.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Amendment:

Rep. Martin: That the main motion be amended such that it be retained at the levels as of the effective date of the Act subject to review by this Council.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Main motion carried unanimously as amended.

The chairman was authorized to write a memo to the Controller relative to the action just taken pertaining to salary schedules.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the Legislative Finance Officer's Assistant and the Legislative Research Director's Assistant be retained for the duration of their terms and at the salary schedule approved by the regular session of the 106th Maine Legislature.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the Council adopt the old rules of the Legislative Research Committee as they apply to the Council

until such time as the Council adopts its own rules.

Seconded: Rep. Martin

Motion carried unanimously

Mr. William Garside, Legislative Finance Officer, was called in to explain how the members of the Legislative Council would be paid. Mr. Garside stated that the members could be paid two ways:

1. Amend the law at the next legislative session to cover expenses;

2. Can be handled as Joint Standing Committees and not come back to the next Legislature asking for money.

The Legislative Administrative Director will handle the expense vouchers. Meals will be handled in the same manner as they were by the Legislative Research Committee--actual meals.

MOTION

Sen. Sewall: that the old Council Chamber be used for Legislative Council meetings, that B.P.I. be instructed to put a sign on the door and that stationery for the Council be ordered.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that Mr. William Garside be appointed Acting Administrative Legislative Director with the directive that the duties as outlined in the legislation creating the position will not be instituted until later.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Sewall: that the Legislative Staff be supervised, until further notice, by Mr. Jon Doyle for a fee of \$100 per week with direct day to day supervision by Mrs. Suzanne Havens.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: that the Legislative Administrative Director be authorized to arrange for the same fringe benefits for the Legislative Staff as classified personnel presently have-- vacation, sick leave, etc.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that Mr. Jon Doyle be authorized to adjust the Legislative Staff as he deems necessary at this time in view of the work load and other factors under the direction of the Legislative Council.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: that the Appropriations Committee be authorized to review and prepare the budget for the second year of the biennium and to handle specific assignments that the Council assigns it.

Seconded: Rep. McTeague

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. McTeague: that the Appropriations Committee be instructed to look into Federal Title 19 funds regarding payments to drugstores and the handling of these funds by the Department of Health and Welfare.

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the subject matter of H.P. 1469 be referred to the Public Utilities Committee.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: that S.P. 640 not be considered by any committee due to other legislation.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the subject matter of S.P. 647 be referred to the Legal Affairs Committee.

Seconded: Rep. Martin

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: that the subject matter of S.P. 649 be referred to the Transportation Committee.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: that the subject matter of H.P. 1567 not be considered as it is covered by other legislation.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the subject matter of S.P. 663 be referred to the Business Legislation Committee.

Seconded: Rep. McTeague

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: that the subject matter of H.P. 1387 be referred to the Veterans and Retirement Committee.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: that the subject matter of S.P. 690 be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the subject matter of H.P. 1636 be referred to the State Government Committee.

Seconded: Sen. Brennan

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: that S.P. 694 not be considered due to S.P. 695.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Danton: that the subject matter of H.P. 1644 be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the subject matter of S.P. 698 be referred to the Liquor Committee.

Seconded: Sen. Brennan

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: that the subject matter to determine who has the responsibility for operation and maintenance of dams be referred to the Public Utilities Committee.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: that the Chairman of the Legislative Council be the only one authorized to make press releases on behalf of the Council.

Seconded: Sen. Brennan

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 12:55 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

The session reconvened at 2:00 p.m. with all members except Senator Sewall present.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: that Mr. Garside be authorized to notify the Bureau of Public Improvements that the Committee Hearing Rooms would be made available for other uses when not in use for hearings by the Joint Standing Committees.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Hewes: that each item to be studied by a legislative committee be assigned and defined by the Legislative Council, and the Committee shall not exceed such study or enlarge upon it without first receiving permission from the Legislative Council.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. McTeague: that the Legislative Staff review the remaining orders which were introduced in the regular session and make their recommendations to the Legislative Council as to which orders need further study.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION.

The Chairman was instructed to correspond with the Senate and House Chairmen of the Joint Standing Committees which had study orders referred to them. Items to be incorporated in the correspondence are:

1. The study order number, the contents, and the scope of the study;

2. The necessity for a complete workday by the committee to assure that we obtain the maximum man-hours per day effort while conserving the budget allotment.

3. That no outside funds be spent without permission from the Council;

4. That the Chairmen are to contact Jon Doyle or Suzanne Havens for staff assignments and that the Chairman should have as much work done as possible before calling together the entire committee;

5. That all meetings are to be recorded on tapes which can be obtained from Mr. William Garside with all decisive action taken within the meeting recorded as committee minutes;

6. That the committees should use their regular committee clerk as assigned to them in the regular session, if possible;

7. That all expense vouchers for the committee and time sheets for the clerks are to be obtained from and returned to the Legislative Director;

8. That the Chairmen are to report monthly to the Council in writing as to the status of their committee activities.

The Chairman announced that the next meeting will be held in the Legislative Council Room on Wednesday, July 25, 1973, at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Jo Glidden - Secretary