

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M I N U T E S
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
Legislative Council Chamber

May 17, 1974

CALL TO ORDER

The chairman called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Senators: Berry, MacLeod, Sewall

Representatives: Birt, Hewes, Martin, McTeague, Simpson

Chief of Legislative Staff, Mrs. Suzanne Havens
Legislative Finance Officer, William H. Garside
Law Librarian, Miss Edith L. Hary
Legislative Docket Clerk, Mrs. Charlotte Carrie

Guests: David E. Smith, Director, Bureau of Computer Services
Maurice F. Williams, Commissioner, Department of
Finance & Administration
Representative Brooks Brown, Jr.
Richard Bachelder, Director, Bureau of Public Improvements
Donald Ringwood and Charles Trigg, Council of State
Governments (Computer Study)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MOTION

Rep. Hewes: That the secretary's report be accepted as mailed.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Staff Assistant, Helen Ginder. (attached)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Legislative Administrative Director -

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That the Legislative Finance Officer be authorized to hire two budget examiners for July 1st employment, subject to final approval of the Legislative Council.

Seconded: Rep. Martin

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

(1) Legislative Administrative Director (Continued)
MOTION

Rep. Martin: That we authorize the purchase of new drapes for the Legislative Council Chamber and that quotes be obtained for new drapes for the House of Representatives.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Legislative Staff - See attached reports.
3. Legislative Reorganization - Will meet after primary elections.
4. Bill Status Retrieval System - Study completed. (See Motion under "Old Business") (Report from Mrs. Carrie attached)
5. Collective Bargaining - No report.
6. Disaster Planning - No report.
7. Excise Tax Study - No report.
8. Appropriations & Financial Affairs -

MOTION

Sen. Sewall: That we authorize the Appropriations Committee to conduct a study of the feasibility of constructing state-owned buildings in several of the larger cities within the State to replace existing leased space.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That the Appropriations Committee be granted permission to examine, in conjunction with their study on the State's future financing, the report by Moody's Rating Service of the loss of the State's Aaa credit rating regarding bond issues.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

(8) Appropriations & Financial Affairs (Continued)

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That the Appropriations Committee be authorized to travel to the Bangor Mental Health Institute on May 21st in connection with their study.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Business Legislation - No report.
10. Education - No report.
11. Health & Institutional Services - Report attached.
12. Human Resources - No report.
13. Judiciary - See attached reports.
14. Labor - No report.
15. Legal Affairs - See attached reports.
16. Liquor Control - No report.
17. Natural Resources - Report attached.
18. Public Lands - No report.
19. Public Utilities - No report.
20. State Government - Report attached.
21. Transportation - Report attached.
22. Veterans and Retirement - No report.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: That the Committee Reports be accepted as presented.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That the report concerning the Maine Management and Cost Survey Commission's recommendations which were not enacted at the special session submitted by Chief of Legislative Staff, Mrs. Havens, be tabled until the next meeting of this Council. (Copy of this report attached)

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That the subject matter of H.P. 2103 concerning the organization and administration of activities now conducted by the Bureau of Social Welfare, remain on the table until the next meeting of this Council.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That we implement a computer bill status system for the 107th Legislature

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That we adopt the recommendation made by Legislative Staff Member, Robert Frates, in his memorandum dated April 17, 1974, that the staff conduct a review of the factors affecting the fragmentation and coordination of services for the mentally retarded.

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS (Continued)

Rep. Brooks Brown, Jr., and Richard Bachelder, Director of the Bureau of Public Improvements appeared before the Council together to review with members Rep. Brown's proposal concerning a lease of 30,000 square feet by the Department of Health and Welfare of a building he plans to construct within the State Capitol Complex. The State would have a 20-year lease with option to buy. (See attached report by Wesley O. Taylor and Associates, Real Estate Appraisers and Consultants, which was presented to the Council by Rep. Brown)

Mr. Bachelder presented a detailed report on office space requirements of the State House Complex, together with a report on existing State Office space shortage, a space analysis, a report on State-leased office space and an analysis of cost for State to construct its own building for the Department of Health & Welfare on a 20-year amortization schedule. (Copy is attached)

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That we table unassigned the proposal of B.P.I. and the Department of Health & Welfare to lease 30,000 square feet in a building being constructed within the State House Complex by Rep. Brooks Brown, Jr.

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Chief of Legislative Staff take the necessary steps to employ an additional member for the Legislative Staff.

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The chairman appointed a subcommittee to screen applications for employment as Legislative Staff Assistants. Senator Berry is chairman of the subcommittee; Representatives Birt and McTeague are members.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That since the Legislature has required that the National School Lunch Program be implemented in all public schools by September, 1974, and since 169 schools have no available food services and many more do not have necessary resources for production of low cost nutrition meals, and an improved system

OLD BUSINESS (Continued)

of food services to schools is urgently needed, I move that the Legislative Council direct the Education Committee to conduct a feasibility study to determine the desirability of establishing a centralized or regionalized frozen food and distribution center or centers to provide such foods to all schools through Grade 8 on a continuous wholesale basis and to supplement that which is received in donated commodities from the Federal Government and to report the results of the study, along with any necessary legislation, to the regular session of the 107th Legislature and that the Legislative Council direct the Bureau of School Management of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services and the Bureau of Purchases of the Department of Finance and Administration, to assist the Committee with technical advice and other needed assistance and that the Commissioners of these Departments be notified accordingly. I further move that the Education Committee be directed to consult with the Maine School Management Association and the Superintendent's Association relative to this study.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Council recessed for lunch at noon and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION

Rep. McTeague: That James Longley's request for a program audit of the Maine Management and Cost Survey's recommendations enacted by the Chief Executive and Legislature, be denied.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That we authorize the travel of Mrs. Hayens to attend a conference on pre-legislative conferences to be held June 2-4, 1974, in Chicago.

Seconded: Rep. McTeague

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That Legislative Staff Assistant, Robert Clarke, be authorized to attend the regional conference on Social Services in Boston, rather than Staff Assistant Robert Frates.

Seconded: Rep. McTeague

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The chairman read to the Council members a letter of resignation which had been submitted by the Director of Legislative Research.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That we accept the resignation of Samuel H. Slosberg as State Director of Legislative Research, effective October 5, 1974.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That David S. Silsby be appointed Director of Legislative Research, effective October 5, 1974.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That David S. Silsby be authorized to make a recommendation for his assistant to the Legislative Council for confirmation prior to July 1, 1974.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That we move into executive session.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That we rise from executive session.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That the salary of the Legislative Finance Officer, the Legislative Research Director and the Law Librarian be increased to \$21,000, effective April 1, and that the salary of the Assistant Legislative Finance Officer and the Assistant Legislative Research Director be increased to \$19,500, effective April 1, 1974.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Legislative Council will be held June 19, 1974 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.



STATE OF MAINE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STATE HOUSE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

April 24, 1974

REPRESENTATIVE LARRY E. SIMPSON
CHAIRMAN
SENATOR JOSEPH E. BRENNAN
VICE CHAIRMAN

SENATORS
RICHARD N. BERRY
PETER W. DANTON
KENNETH P. MACLEOD
JOSEPH SEWALL

REPRESENTATIVES
WALTER A. BIRT
RICHARD N. HEWES
JOHN L. MARTIN
PATRICK N. MOTEAGUE

TO: All Chairmen, Joint Standing Committees

FROM: Hon. Larry E. Simpson, Chairman,
Legislative Council

The Legislative Council is requesting your immediate attention to the Study Orders presently before your Committees and are asking your cooperation in order that work on these will proceed immediately and not drag throughout the spring and summer months and then be hastily completed just prior to the 107th Maine Legislature.

We realize that many of you and your members are seeking re-election, but that in no way should diminish the responsibilities we encumbered as part of our legislative duties.

We have now assigned the new studies which makes the task even more difficult. Our staff has done an excellent job and we are anticipating one additional staff member shortly. Right now, however, the workload is slow and it needs to be boosted by you.

We would like to call to your attention once again the necessity for written final reports on all your studies which must be submitted to the Council. We sincerely appreciate those who have complied and are looking forward to many more.

We are also asking that you review our policy relative to committee meetings, records taken and the written report which we are expecting from your committee for our regular meeting held on the third Wednesday of each month.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and assistance, and let's make sure that the first year of operation under this new concept proves that we were correct in undertaking it.

April 24, 1974

MEMO TO: Members of the 106th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FROM: Hon. Larry E. Simpson, Chairman, Legislative Council

Pursuant to the House Order passed during the special session, the enclosed material represents the minutes of our April 17th meeting and the Agenda for our May 15th meeting which is subject to last-minute additions, if necessary.

Please note that in the minutes reference is made to attachments to our reports. These are not included in this mailing, but are available upon request from the council secretary, Mrs. Giroux.

We are sending this material to each member of the Senate this time only. Should any of the Senators wish to have this report, please advise us and we will place your name on our mailing list.

We were in hopes to include in this mailing two mini printouts of the action taken on every bill before the special session of the 106th Legislature; one indexed by subject and one by Legislative Document number. However, we have experienced difficulty in mailing these due to cost and weight of package. Therefore, we will be shipping them to you by United Parcel. If you are going to be in Augusta in the near future, you may pick up your copy at the Docket Room in lieu of having it shipped. Maxi copies of this report, which are very detailed, bulky and lengthy, are available in the leadership offices and the legislative offices in the State House, should you wish to review them.