October 3, 2022

Finance Committee: 9-26-2022

RESOLUTION NO. 360-2022

ADOPTING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW C (NO. ___) FOR THE YEAR 2022,
"AUTHORIZING THE USE OF VIDEO OR SIMILAR SERVICE FOR REMOTE
ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES ACTING
IN THE NAME OF ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 1
OF THE LAWS OF 2022 FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK"

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of St. Lawrence as follows:

Section 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A. The people’s right to witness and observe the governmental decision-making process in
action is basic to our society. Access to public portions of meetings of public bodies must be
protected and maintained.

B. We adopt these guidelines in order to provide direction concerning the procedures by which
public meetings of this public body may be photographed, recorded and broadcast.

Section 2. RECORDING AND BROADCASTING PUBLIC PORTIONS OF MEETINGS

A. The public portion of any meeting of a public body may be photographed, recorded and
broadcast.

B. A public body may adopt reasonable rules governing the location of equipment and personnel
used to photograph, record or broadcast the public portion of a meeting in order to ensure that the
use of such equipment does not detract from or interfere with the deliberative process.

C. There is no privacy interest in statements made during public portions of meetings of public
bodies. Distaste or embarrassment shall not constitute a basis for prohibiting or limiting the
photographing, recording or broadcasting of those present at a meeting.

Section 3. RULES FOR RECORDING AND BROADCASTING PUBLIC PORTIONS OF
MEETINGS

A. Operation of equipment to photograph, record or broadcast a meeting is permitted unless it is
obtrusive, disruptive, or interferes with the deliberative process or the right of persons in
attendance to observe or listen to the proceedings.

B. Use of equipment necessary to photograph, record or broadcast is permitted without notice to
or express permission from the public body or those in attendance at the meeting.

C. Use of equipment necessary to photograph, record or broadcast is permitted in a supervised
or unsupervised manner.
October 3, 2022

D. Use of special lighting or large equipment necessary to photograph, record or broadcast a meeting is permitted unless it is obtrusive or disruptive.

E. Personnel who operate equipment necessary to photograph, record and/or broadcast a meeting shall be permitted to move about the room, as long as such movement does not disrupt or interfere with the deliberative process.

F. Use of equipment necessary to photograph, record and/or broadcast a meeting shall not be limited to a location from which such equipment is not reasonably capable of photographing, recording and/or broadcasting.

G. Persons operating equipment necessary to photograph, record and/or broadcast shall be given a reasonable opportunity to modify their actions in order to avoid interference with the deliberative process.

Section 4. PUBLIC NOTICE

These rules governing the operation of equipment necessary to photograph, record or broadcast a meeting shall be posted in a designated location. Written copies of such rules shall be provided upon request, free of charge, to those in attendance at or who seek to attend a meeting.

Section 5. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of these guidelines or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is adjudged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect or impair the validity of the other provisions of these regulations or the application thereof to other persons and circumstances.

Section 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE

_/s/

I, Kelly S. Bigwarfe, Deputy Clerk of the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared this Resolution No. 360-2022 Entitled "Adopting Proposed Local Law C (No. ___) for the Year 2022, "Authorizing the Use of Video or Similar Service for Remote Attendance of Meetings of Public Bodies Acting in the Name of St. Lawrence County Pursuant to Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2022 for the State of New York"", adopted October 3, 2022, with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

_Kelly S. Bigwarfe_
Kelly S. Bigwarfe, Deputy Clerk
St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators
October 4, 2022