

September 12, 1994

QUESTIONS ON COMMITTEE:

Chairman Teele asked if there were any questions on Committee Reports. There were none.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 196-94

**ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 7 FOR THE YEAR 1994
BANNING DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN COUNTY BUILDINGS & VEHICLES**

By Mr. Luckie, Chairman, Law & Safety Committee

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held on Local Law No. 7 for the year 1994,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators hereby adopts Local Law Number 7 for the year 1994, Banning Dangerous Weapons in County Buildings and Vehicles.

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Mr. Luckie moved that Resolution No. 196-94 be adopted, seconded by Mr. K. Smith.

Mr. Luckie wanted the Board to know that the Law and Safety Committee has had several discussions on this issue. Legislator Kit Smith brought this issue to the Committee when a town highway employee was carrying a gun to work. The Town Officials wanted some assistance from the County in banning this practice. Mr. Luckie noted there have been several shootings in public places in the past few years and we need to do what is necessary to prevent this from happening in St. Lawrence County.

Mr. Romigh disagreed with Mr. Luckie saying if a person is going to break the law they are not going to let this stop them. We should not pass a local law for just one person or town. Mr. Gray agreed with Mr. Romigh stating that this is another layer of bureaucracy that is unnecessary. It is just another hoop that people have to jump through. Mr. Greenwood said the law is meaningless and since it is against the law to commit murder, this is just "window dressing."

Mrs. Bradley asked the Sheriff what his thoughts on this local law were. Sheriff Knowlton responded that he supports this local law. He feels it will stop the possibility of an inmate grabbing a gun from a citizen. It will be safer for everyone involved.

By a roll call vote on Resolution No. 196-94, the resolution was carried with seventeen (17) yes votes and five (5) no votes (Teele, Snider, Greenwood, Romigh and Gray).

September 12, 1994

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW K FOR THE YEAR 1994

BANNING DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN COUNTY BUILDINGS AND VEHICLES

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

The County of St. Lawrence, through its County Board of Legislators, and in its proprietary capacity, declared that it is necessary for the security, safety, protection and well-being of the public, its employees and its property, to place restrictions on the bearing and possession of firearms and other dangerous weapons and instruments by individuals while entering into and being present in any buildings and/or vehicles, owned, leased and operated by or for said County of St. Lawrence.

SECTION 2. BANNING DANGEROUS WEAPONS

This local law prohibits any individual from bearing or having in his or her possession, either openly or concealed, any firearm, gun explosive device or substance, lethal or debilitating chemical or gas, or any dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument of any description, including, but not limited to a handgun, pistol, target pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, dangerous knife, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, imitation pistol or other items defined by the Penal Law of the State of New York, while entering into or while being present in any building and/or vehicles owned, leased or operated by or for the County of St. Lawrence.

SECTION 3. EXEMPTIONS

This local law shall not apply to any authorized peace officer or police officer, as defined in the New York State Criminal Procedure Law, or any authorized official of the County, State or Federal Government. This exemption being limited, however, to such times when the official duties of such an authorized officer or official cause him or her to be present in any building owned, leased or occupied by the County of St. Lawrence.

SECTION 4. PENALTIES

Failure to comply with this local law shall be punishable by confinement in the St. Lawrence County Correctional Facility for a term not to exceed three (3) months and/or a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.