

Chautauqua County Legislature
Live Streamed on YouTube
Wednesday, July 23, 2025 6:30 p.m.
Mayville, N.Y. 14757

Chairman Chagnon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Chagnon: Good evening. I will call to order the meeting of the Chautauqua County Legislature on July 23, 2025. Would the Clerk please call the roll?

Clerk Lee called the roll and announced a quorum present.

Legislator Anthony delivered the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Chagnon: I will now entertain a motion for approval of the minutes from the June 25, 2025 Legislative meeting. Do I have a motion to approve the minutes?

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson and duly carried the minutes were approved. (6/25/25)

1st Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Chagnon: Next on the agenda, we will have the privilege of the floor. Members of the public may comment on any subject relating to any local law, resolution or motion appearing on tonight's agenda. Individual comments are limited to three minutes and comments representing a group shall be limited to five minutes. Is there anyone wishing to address the first privilege of the floor? Anyone for the first privilege of the floor? Seeing no one, I will close the first privilege of the floor. And I'll turn it over to Olivia.

PROCLAMATION:

**Proclaiming the 1st Saturday of August as
"Purple Heart Day in Chautauqua County"**

By

Chairman Pierre Chagnon

&

County Executive Paul M. Wendel, Jr.

VETO MESSAGES FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE WENDEL
NO VETOES FROM 06/25/2025

Clerk Lee: There are 6 communications listed on the agenda. If you would like a copy of any of these items, please let our office know.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Public Hearing re: Ground Lease with The Aerie JHW LLC at Chautauqua County Airport Jamestown (Post Journal and Observer)
 2. Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Publication of Local Law 2-25 (Post Journal and Observer)
 3. Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Publication of Local Law 3-25 (Post Journal and Observer)
 4. Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Publication of Local Law 4-25 (Post Journal and Observer)
 5. Resolution – RES. NO. 152-25 Opposition to S8012/A8332 re: Assessment of Solar and Wind Energy Systems – Chenango County Board of Supervisors
 6. Resolution – RES. NO. 256 Opposition to S8012/A8332 re: Assessment of Solar and Wind Energy Systems – Fulton County Board of Supervisors
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Legislator Larson: Mr. Chairman, a point of information. Has there been an acknowledgment from either Congressman Langworthy or the White House of our Motion supporting Job Corps?

Clerk Lee: I have not received anything.

Legislator Larson: Thank you.

RESOLUTIONS:

184-25 Confirm Reappointments – Traffic Safety Board, signed through by Legislator Niebel

Legislator Larson: Mr. Chairman, of these one, two, three, four, five, six people a casual look at this by somebody that lives in the North County in particular, might think that there are three appointments from Jamestown. The second appointment there, 3800 Fluvanna Townline Rd. our Chair knows probably whether that's on the Ellery or the Ellicott side of Fluvanna Townline Road, but it's not Jamestown. I know the Zip Code is there. Then the 10 East Summit listed as Jamestown with the 14750 Zip Code is quite clearly the village of Lakewood. So, one out of six rather than three out of six – thank you.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

185-25 Acceptance of Funds from the FAA for Upgrade Security Gates (Design) at the Chautauqua County Dunkirk Airport, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees

RES. NO 185-25 - ADOPTED with Legislators Scudder and Pavlock voting “No”

186-25 Amend 2025 Budget for Probation Department for DCJS Pre-Trial Service Award, by Audit & Control Committee

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

187-25 Accept Enhanced Drinking Water Grant Funding, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

188-25 Authorize an MOU with New York State Department of Health Office of Sexual Health and Epidemiology for participation in the 340B Drug Pricing Program as a Sexually Transmitted Disease Entity – Health Department, by Human Services Committee

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

189-25 Authorize Public Hearing Regarding a Potential Application for 2025 CDBG Funding through NYS Office of Community Renewal, by Human Services Committee

Legislator Johnson: Why is it that the County seeks public input only from low- and moderate-income residents as opposed to all residents?

Chairman Chagnon: I don't know that we have anybody here that can answer that question.

Legislator Johnson: Well, we are all taxpayers, we are all residents.

Chairman Chagnon: Sure.

Legislator Johnson: Anyway, so fair enough.

Chairman Chagnon: The requirements for CDBG grants are very specific – that much I do know. So, the verbiage might be taken directly from the grant requirements. Steve, do you have any opinion on that?

Legislator Johnson: I think you are right.

Chairman Chagnon: Our Parliamentarian is back with us in person.

Parliamentarian Steve Abdella: Well, I think just looking at the resolution that those who would be most likely qualifying for assistance under this septic and wells program would be those who fall into the low- and moderate-income category. So, I think that's why reference is made that in particular input from those people who might be more likely to be the beneficiaries is considered best.

Legislator Johnson: Just to make it brief. I think you're probably right it comes from on high. Because the counter argument to that is well, of course, the people who are paying for this represent the other half of the spectrum. But, let's just think it's coming from on high.

Chairman Chagnon: I would suspect.

Legislator Bankoski: Mr. Johnson, if you feel that there is not adequate information here for us to take a vote, we could always table this till next month and then we can get the information so that you are satisfied to make an educated vote.

Legislator Johnson: If I weren't reasonably certain, not totally certain. But if I weren't reasonably certain that it came from on high, I might do that. But thank you.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

190-25 Authorizing Execution of Restore NY Grant Disbursement Agreement for the White Inn, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

191-25 Authorize Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau as the Local Tourist Promotion Agency for Matching Funds Program Sponsored by the New York State Division of Tourism, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

192-25 Establish 2026 Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures for the Chautauqua County Department of Planning & Development, by Planning & Economic Development Committee

Legislator Larson: I appreciate that the letter of the law has been honored in the drafting of this resolution, in that it correctly recites what our County Charter has required since 1998, what our County Code requires and what our own Rules require. So, there is no question the letter of the law has been met and at this point it's the only one of our standing committees that has attempted to meet the letter of the law. Appreciate the committee being willing to go this far after three or four months of discussing what the Charter, Code and our own Rules require of our

committee. However, the spirit of the law has not been met. There is not one word in this resolution that came from a legislator or from the Economic Development Committee. The department submitted this so the department said what – told the legislators what the goals ought to be for 2026 and the department in this resolution tells the legislators how to measure success. I think of that in terms of a professional golfer who knows that on the PGA Tour you have to make the cut after 36 holes or you don't get to play Saturday and Sunday for the money. But if a PGA player could set his own rules, he could say that success what showing up and playing Thursday and Friday and he gets to play Saturday and Sunday no matter what. The letter of the law is met here, the spirit of the law is the legislature and this committee is supposed to be telling the Executive Branch what the legislators find as important goals and objectives and how to measure success. The resolution as it stands doesn't do that. I offer just one amendment to this resolution tonight. I provided it to the Clerk earlier today. The amendment reads as follows; it adds a goal: Job growth is the Legislature's number one economic development goal in 2026. It adds an objective "use all the resources of the County government to facilitate new and existing businesses to add jobs." As of May 2025, employed persons in Chautauqua County totaled 51,000. It adds a performance measure "growth in 'employed persons' as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics via FRED, that's not me, it's capital F, capital R, capital E, capital D and it's the name used by the Federal Reserve Board of St. Louis. But I do kinda like it. I offer that as an Amendment to Resolution 192-25 as adding one sentence, one goal by a legislator, instead of everything from the department. Thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: So, you are proposing an amendment to the resolution? You are making a motion?

Legislator Larson: Correct.

Chairman Chagnon: Okay, so we have a motion, is there a second to the motion to amend:

Legislator Bankoski: SECONDED

Chairman Chagnon: Is there any discussion, questions, comments on the motion to amend?

Legislator Larson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. If job creation is not the number one priority of our County Economic Development for 2026, I would ask those at the moment I guess are inclined to shoot this down, I would ask them well, what is the number one priority for County Economic Development? The background of my amendment is what the Bureau of Labor Statistics calls employed persons. Employed persons in Chautauqua County has declined from about 65,000 fifteen years ago to 51,000 as of May of this year. A decline of 14,000 employed persons. Now, if that's not setting the stage for this County government to say job growth is the Legislature's number one economic development goal in 2026, I don't know what the second-place goal could even be. I understand some in the Republican caucus were concerned that when the objectives says use all the resources of the County government to

facilitate new and existing businesses to add jobs, they interpreted that – allegedly – as a lot of County money. Well, some of you secretly, quietly thanked me for bringing history to this body, some don't, but some do and I appreciate that. From my eight years as County Attorney, when I say bring all resources of County government, eight years as County Attorney and eight years as a City Court Judge, I learned a lot about government resources. When the County government prior to 2005 expanded the South County Industrial Park where Serta Mattress wound up, our County Department of Public Facilities built the road. Neither the IDA nor the County went out and hired contractors to build that road. We used our Department of Public Facilities as an Economic Development resource and tool. Even our Probation Department believe it or not, can be an Economic Development tool. You hear how our labor force has shrunk, it's shrunk by the same 14,000 as our employed and our population over twenty years the same 14,000. It's remarkably consistent. Anyway, as City Court Judge I became educated that almost everybody on probation signs a kind of contract that says if they don't have a High School degree for example, they are obligated to go get a GED. If they don't have a job, they are obligated to go out and get one. So, even our Probation Department could be helpful to an existing employer that needs ten or fifteen more people or a new employer that needs workers. So, that's what I meant by all the resources of County government, our Social Services Department can encourage people to get a job. Probation Department has people obligated to get a job. Even our Health Department can help. Some of the existing businesses that might want to expand, maybe they don't have public water and public sewer or whatever township they are in and would add to their facility and add jobs. Our County Health Department could fast track a septic system that would be acceptable for that business. So, that's what I meant by that. The performance measure – government tends to resist performance measures that actually are easily measured. And the black and white is in your face. Legislator Johnson's career was in the private sector where if the goal is to increase productivity by 5%, they better do that or else. The public sector doesn't seem to like easily measured performance measures. I understand that. But, the one laid out here is the one that's reported monthly and it doesn't lie, it's not political. It's month after month, year after year regardless of who is President or Governor or County Executive. And it's important – I can think of no more important goal than to stop this steady, rather rapid, but steady decline in employed persons in this county from 65,000 to down to 51,000. If we are not willing to look at that measure and say okay at the end of 2026 - have we finally stopped the bleeding then shame on us. Now, if somebody on the Republican side would like to make a motion to refer this back to committee to see if it could be massaged a bit to satisfy a majority – I have no objection to that. If we act on it in August, it's still plenty of time to influence the County Executive's tentative budget due in September. So, if there is a desire to send it back to committee, we could spend as much as thirty-five minutes on it in August and see if we could have something that could get majority support. But, if this is just rejected because a Democrat sponsored it, that's a sad thing and if job growth is not the number one Economic Goal, I think those voting against this owe it to the public to tell the public what the number one Economic Development Goal is for 2026. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Legislator Nelson: I just want to say I concur with Legislator Larson. I think the amendment is for a goal that is measurable. If you look at the goals that are listed – to improve the quality of life for all Chautauqua County residents, which is admirable, but how do you

measure that? I'm looking at the performance measure, I'm not sure how that's done. I believe Legislator Larson is right. This should be our number one focus. Thank you.

Legislator Johnson: As the one Republican who voted against this is committee, let me say I disagree with my esteemed representative to the left and to the right. As an economist, I do not believe it is the government's objective or role to dictate creating jobs. It is the government's role to create an environment that itself that it will create jobs. So, I do not agree with the amendment.

Legislator Vanstrom: Hello everybody. I just want to point out the last goal that was already listed in the preapproved resolution was to improve the business environment in Chautauqua County. When we have healthy business environments of course we are going to provide more jobs. Thank you.

Legislator Niebel: Mr. Chairman, I just want to add to what Mr. Johnson stated previously. New York State last I knew, ranked 49th out of 50 states as far as being business friendly. So, if you have a State that imposes restrictions on businesses, that certainly is going to affect employment in the State. So, I mean, you have the IDA doing their best to create jobs, but they are really kind of swimming upstream against the State who is imposing restrictions and regulations that hinder the development of jobs. I just wanted to make that point. Thank you.

Legislator Larson: We have this 10,000 angels dancing on the head of a pin every once in a while, around here. Does government create jobs? Not directly usually, although this government has added 200 jobs in the last ten years from 1,000 jobs when the County home disappeared to back over 1,200 now. So, County government has created jobs – over 200 of them. Anyway, every year we have an annual report from our County Economic Development Department and/or County Industrial Development Agency. Every year there will be a claim of how many new jobs the County Economic Development/IDA how many new jobs they take credit for that they assisted and therefor they see fit to claim credit for 500 new jobs, or 400 new jobs. And how many jobs they claim that their actions retained in the County. They claim that every year – it's nothing new. What would be new here is – there is no measurement for a healthy economy in Chautauqua County – if there were we would declare our County that's lost 14,000 employed in the last fifteen years, we would declare it needing to go to the intensive care unit. I'm not doing that. I would rather not look at the past, I'm setting May 2025 where we exist, not where we used to be – 51,000 employed. If that makes anybody in the majority party or the administration nervous that a year from December of 2025, we have 49,000 employed or 48,000 employed, I don't sympathize with their concern about that. I'd rather there be an incentive throughout the County government and it's IDA to make sure that we finally stop this bleeding of employment and we do create the conditions that allow private sector, not for profits, whoever, to grow here, come here, expand here, hire people. It's a copout to say that this is an unfair measure or we are not in control of jobs. If Cummins Engine walks out of here in 2006 nobody is going to say County government is responsible for losing 1,500 jobs. God forbid that would happen. But, if we don't have, if we have no measurement of success in employment for our people, shame on us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Chagnon: Any other comments, questions on the proposed motion to amend? Hearing none, in regard to the motion to amend, all those in favor please say “aye”.

MOTION to amend is defeated with legislators Larson, Nelson, Bankoski and Buchanan voting “yes”

Legislator Nelson: Mr. Chairman, I’m – maybe someone can explain this to me – the first goal that I read is to improve the quality of life for all Chautauqua County residents – the sixth goal that I read is to improve the quality of life for all Chautauqua County residents. Are they two different goals? Is it a TYPO? Is it the same goal with difference objectives?

Chairman Chagnon: The first goal is to improve the quality of life and the last goal is to improve the business environment.

Legislator Nelson: No, the number six if I’m counting ...

Chairman Chagnon: You numbered them - I didn’t do that.

Legislator Nelson: To improve the quality of life for all Chautauqua County residents. I guess they are different objectives is that what I’m seeing. It seems unclear though.

Chairman Chagnon: It looks like there are different objectives and performance measures.

Legislator Nelson: Okay.

Chairman Chagnon: Any other comments, questions on the resolution?

ADOPTED R/C Vote: 13 Yes; 4 No (Larson, Bankoski, Buchanan, Nelson); 2 absent

193-25 Reconfirm Chautauqua County Purchasing Policy, by Audit & Control Committee

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Chagnon: And that brings us to announcements. Are there any announcements in this wonderful season of the year for the good of the order?

Legislator Nelson: I have a couple. August 5th – I’ll just read to you this: It’s a join Congressman Nick Langworthy for a welcome ceremony for the Swedish Ambassador to the

United States. This will be at the Jackson Center at 4:00 on August 5th. And another plug for the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival August 7th through the 10th. So, I hope to see everybody in Jamestown for that. Thank you.

Legislator Dickey: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to announce my church, Healing Word Ministries, in the downtown area of Jamestown, will be hosting a lawn concert where they are giving away a lot of school supplies, backpacks, etc. to those in the community who are in need. That is consistent with Proverbs 14:21 and Proverbs 19:17 where we are supporting the poor and the underserved in Jamestown. Thank you.

Legislator Proctor: On August 2nd it's Sherman Day and invite everyone to come out and enjoy a parade and music and food and lots of different activities.

Legislator Johnson: I am reminded that we have this coming weekend, the Arts and Crafts Show at Moore Park in Westfield, New York and it is full of all sorts of stuff and all sorts of vendors. – Friday and Saturday.

Chairman Chagnon: Including any of your products?

Legislator Johnson: No. But on First Fridays you'll find our products.

2nd PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Members of the public may comment on any subject.

A member of the legislature may speak on any subject.

Individual comments are limited to 3 minutes and
comments representing a group shall be limited to 5 minutes.

Chairman Chagnon: It looks like Mr. Jablonski would like to address the 2nd Privilege of the Floor.

John Jablonski: Thank you your Legislator Chagnon. I'm John Jablonski, 213 Spruce Street, Lakewood, New York. Hello Republican Legislators and Executive Wendel, I'm here tonight to ask you several questions. We have already had an eldercare Nursing Home crisis with one of the most valued nursing homes closing due to insufficient Medicaid funding before your Republican regime and congressman Langworthy adopted extreme Medicaid cuts. We already had a large percent of our working population living on the edge in desperate situations before your Republican regime adopted extreme Medicaid cuts. Our healthcare infrastructure was already extremely stressed before your Republican regime adopted extreme Medicaid cuts which are designed to cut off assistance for the working poor. A large percentage of our population depends on SNAP benefits to survive and sustain their families. That was before your Republican regime adopted extreme cuts to SNAP funding. What are you, the legislators and

County Executive Wendel, doing to save the lives of our affected residents and save our hospitals and save our nursing homes and eldercare systems?

Chairman Chagnon: Excuse me John. This is your opportunity to address the Legislature, not the County Executive. You can address your comments to the County Executive separately.

John Jablonski: Usually he is here.

Chairman Chagnon: He is not present.

John Jablonski: Okay, I did not know that. Normally he is sitting here. What are you doing to save the lives of our affected residents and save our hospitals and save our nursing homes and eldercare systems? Congress has recently proven that it can quickly undo previous actions. What are you going to do to save our residents and businesses from these drastic cuts to basic services? Thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Anyone else wishing to address the 2nd Privilege of the Floor?

Tammy Schack: Hello. Good evening, my name is Tammy Schack from Bemus Point. And I'm thrilled to share some long-awaited news. As of this week, NYSDOT began installing the temporary exit ramp off I-86 in Bemus Point. This will finally restore access to our businesses and community and begin to relieve some of the economic strain that has affected us since the closure. I can't begin to tell you how heartwarming it's been to have people walk into my business just to say thank you. Some have come in with misty eyes, expressing something we haven't felt in a long time - hope. Hope the ordinary people- We the People – can be heard. That we can make change happen, even when we feel forgotten by our County and our State – Whether it's about a bridge or a lake. That said, I need to correct the record. While I'm grateful for the ramp announcement, some of the statements made in Sunday's article were inaccurate and self-congratulatory. I know because I've lived it for 64 weeks, for 16 months fighting, and writing, and organizing, and meeting, and never giving up. Executive Wendel was quoted as saying he looks forward to "continued collaboration" with NYSDOT. I'm not sure where "continued" comes from – but what we need now is action, not after-the-fact alignment. I will be formally requesting a meeting with Executive Wendel to discuss the creation of Nurture CHQ – a local fund to support existing small businesses who have been harmed through government inaction - like construction disruptions, and lack of oversight. Right now, the Empire State Development & the CCIDA have funding programs – but absolutely none for retail. There is nothing for those who already LIVE CHQ and GROW CHQ. That is unacceptable and I'm asking for your support to change that. Next month, I will return to report on the full impact this 16-month ordeal has had on my business – and update you on whether I've received a response from Executive Wendel and secured a meeting. I hope each of you, as representatives elected to serve the people, will stand with me in making sure we don't just patch a road, but fix the way we support small businesses that hold our county together. Thank you.

Susan Baldwin: Good evening, my name is Susan Baldwin. I live in Villanova. And I am here to point out my electric bill again. Every month it is really expensive. This month it was \$356.00. Delivery fees, delivery charges and all of the other accessories above and beyond the actual use were \$181.07. Supply charges and fees on the back of the bill it says, you know, systems benefit charge is one of the charges. It's like twenty dollars. A State mandated charge for all electric and natural gas customers, the SBS, is used to fund clean energy activities conducted by NYSRTA. As you go through the back of your bill you see pretty much all these extra charges beyond the service charge that are like about twenty lines here – that are accessory charges. They are all to fund the green energy and to fund all of the new wires to go with the green energy. And so, me and my retirement have to cough up almost \$200 just for green energy. And what I'm using isn't even – it's – subtotal electric supply - \$160.00. So, you know, so I just wanted to point that out that this bright idea to have green – is not. Okay, it's not even, it's so dim we should be shutting it off. And, that's what I wanted to say. My bills are constantly elevated, constantly ridiculous charges that are tacked on to it. They have nothing to do with whether or not I've unplugged my toaster. It's just going to keep on happening. And the people in this County are just going to go (*sound*). Western New York – because we can't afford this. And then they want us to have a car that runs on electric and hey, lets get a furnace to go on there. This is just for my lights and my television set. Heaven forbid I watch a few Disney shows or something, you know. I just wanted to point that out. That I'm very unhappy with New York State electric and gas and oh by the way Bob, I had my electric checked. I have no electric leaks that's it. Have a great night.

Jim Wehrfritz: Hello, I am Jim Wehrfritz from the Town of Ellery, President of the Chautauqua Lake Property Owners Association, the CLPOA. I appreciate your attention. The CLPOA held Wetlands Public meeting #11 on July 5. Eighty participated. Attendees ask questions at our meetings and, in most cases, get answers. We cannot answer some, like what County government is doing about the new wetlands' regulations and poor Lake conditions or who is in charge of the Lake. We wish you all were there. Out next Wetlands Public meeting #12 will be at the Bemus Point Golf Club and Tap House on Monday, September 1, Labor Day, 9:30 – 11:00 AM. We especially invite our Lakeside Legislators Chagnon, Gustafson, Penhollow, Proctor, and Vanstrom. The July 4th weekend was an “absolute nightmare” on Chautauqua Lake for Burtis Bay, Sherman Bay, Ellicott and Fluvanna residents and as broadcast to all of western New York. More broadcasts followed from the newly DEC-designated wetlands, an impenetrable weed-choked Lake. These weeds are now protected and more growth is encouraged by the regulations. Other than pointing fingers, but not at the DEC, or staying silent, the County and most municipalities were missing in action. The DEC had designated no in-Lake wetlands before weed management organizations began planning. Then, and only then, did the DEC designate those areas planned for weed management as wetlands and require permits. You heard me right; those areas were not wetlands until after these organizations told the DEC where they had to work. Only then did those lake areas become wetlands. Our State Senator and County Executive are mistaken when they say the regulations did not contribute to the absolute nightmare in the South Basin. That's just not the case. The same individuals continue to blame Lake organization infighting for Lake problems. But these are only symptoms of root causes and a distraction. The real problems are decades of ineffective local Lake management and

inattention by our State. The DEC's mission is to conserve, improve, and protect our Lake, not arbitrarily designate parts of our Lake a swamp to hide their negligence. Low value swamp front property is replacing high value lakefront property on your watch. No one is managing Chautauqua Lake. The Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance, the Alliance, a county agency pretending to be a 501c3 non-profit, operates in secret with no direct input from taxpayers while it doles out millions in foundation, State and County funding to its members. The Alliance is an expensive well-meaning but failed experiment which cannot be repaired. It has no authority to manage the Lake and has failed to improve conditions after twelve years and millions of dollars. There is no Chautauqua Lake Management Plan. The Alliance funded development of the Long-Term Management Plan for Submerged Aquatic Vegetation at Chautauqua Lake completed in June 2024. But the Alliance refused to adopt this Plan, changed its name to Strategy, and put it on the shelf with 50-60 Chautauqua Lake studies. They then changed the title of the Lake Manager they planned to hire to Lake Consultant acknowledging their lack of authority. Looks like smoke and mirrors. What is the solution? The solution, a Centralized Lake Authority, is simple in concept but requires real County and municipality leadership. Such was attempted in 2004 and reintroduced by County Executive Borrello in 2019. The 2004 attempt failed when the Town of Chautauqua opted out. The 2019 effort failed when a new County Executive was appointed. As a distributor of County and State taxpayer and other funds, the Authority, a completely new organization, would consist of only Town Supervisors, Village Mayors, and County Legislators with districts on Chautauqua Lake and would operate transparently. I've heard some of you have said that the State won't allow a Centralized Lake Authority for our Lake. I don't believe that. But, even if it's true and given that the State itself will not manage the Lake, you must challenge the State on such a ridiculous position. You may even have to consider litigation. Take another shot of courage as the Eagles suggested in a song, take on a real worthwhile challenge, and join those of us volunteers leading the fight. Consider your legacy relative to your Lake and County, a legacy that is currently an absolute nightmare when it comes to Chautauqua Lake. Thank you.

Legislator Niebel: Well, I did want to just respond to Mr. Jablonski's comments. He talked about extreme Medicaid cuts. The cuts in the Medicaid program are for waste, fraud and abuse. Deserving individuals will not be affected and certainly no one will die. Thank you.

MOVED by Legislator Anthony SECONDED by Legislator Bankoski to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (7:17 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Nancy Quattrone, Senior Stenographer & Olivia L. Lee, Clerk of the Legislature