

Chautauqua County Legislature
Live Streamed on YouTube
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 6:30 p.m.
Mayville, N.Y. 14757

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

Chairman Chagnon: I will call to order the meeting of the Chautauqua County Legislature on November 19, 2025. Would the Clerk please call the roll?

Clerk Lee called the roll and announced a quorum present. (Absent: Landy, Larson, Proctor)

Legislator Gustafson delivered the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson and duly carried the minutes were approved. (10/22/2025 & 11/05/25)

1st Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Chagnon: That brings us to our first privilege of the floor. Members of the public may comment on any subject relating to any local law, resolution or motion appearing on the agenda. Individual comments are limited to three minutes and comments representing a group shall be limited to five minutes.

Chairman Chagnon: Seeing no one, I will close the first privilege of the floor.

COMMENDATION:

100th Anniversary
Ellington Fire Department
By
Legislator Dan Pavlock
&
County Executive Paul M. Wendel, Jr.

Clerk Lee: There are no veto messages from County Executive Wendel from the August October 22, 2025 and November 5, 2025 meeting.

VETO MESSAGES FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE WENDEL
NO VETOES FROM 10/22/2025 & 11/05/2025

Clerk Lee: There are 5 communications on the agenda, if you would like a copy of any of these items, please let our office know.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Resolution – Greene County Legislature - RES. NO. 298-25 Support of Congressman Nick Langworthy’s Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) And In Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans
 2. Letter – Department of Taxation and Finance – Acknowledgment of Resolution 248-25
 3. Resolution – Yates County Legislature – RES. NO. 470-25 Authorizing Legislative Chair to Sign Letter Urging Congress to Maintain Snap and Heap Funding
 4. Report – Finance Director Kitty Crow, Re: August 2025 Investment Report
 5. Letter – Resignation of Senior Stenographer
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RESOLUTIONS:

276-25 Authorize Transfer of Tax Foreclosure Property to the City of Dunkirk, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson to Amend to fix the typos – Unanimously Carried to Amend by Substitution (Typo corrections shown below)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chautauqua County ~~Resolution 44-13~~ Resolution 110-17, the County Legislature established a general policy regarding disposition of tax foreclosure parcels, but retained the authority to impose special requirements, terms, and conditions for the sale of particular tax parcels and determine in its sole discretion to whom a particular tax parcel will be sold; and

WHEREAS, paragraph 3.B.1 of ~~Resolution 44-13~~ Resolution 110-17 provides that upon written request from a city, after circulation of the list of foreclosed properties but prior to the last day for redemption under the Real Property Tax Law, the County shall “transfer property acquired through tax foreclosure to the municipal corporations described in paragraph ~~2A~~ 3A above for the purpose of municipal use, provided that such a transfer is in the best interest of the County, upon payment by the municipal entity of applicable recording charges and all delinquent taxes and current year taxes levied on such parcels but not yet returned to the County for enforcement”; and

RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby authorizes the transfer of the County’s property interest in parcel # 96.06-3-1 to the City of Dunkirk in accordance with the requirements of ~~Resolution 44-13~~ Resolution 110-17 paragraph 3.B.1; and be it further

RES. NO. 276-25 - *R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AS AMENDED*

277-25 Authorize Lease Agreement with City of Jamestown for Office Space for Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene and Social Services, by Public Facilities, Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

278-25 Authorize the Conveyance of an Easement and Right of Way to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, by Public Facilities Committee

RES. NO. 277-25 - *R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED*

279-25 Authorize Agreement with NY State DOT for Performance of Federal-Aid Project PIN 5765.30, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

280-25 Amend 2025 Budget for Public Health, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

281-25 Amend 2025 Budget for Veterans Service Agency, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

282-25 Authorize Acceptance of the Univera Award to Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services for the Evidence Based Wellness Programming, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

283-25 Request Inclusion of Construction of Phase 1 of Proposed New JCC Wellness Complex in SUNY's Capital Request for the 2026-2027 Executive Budget, by Planning & Economic Development, and Audit & Control Committees

Legislator Bankoski: I'd like if the County Executive could please share some insight on this?

Chairman Chagnon: Okay, County Executive, could you share some insight on this at the request of Legislator Bankoski?

County Executive Paul M. Wendel, Jr.: Yes, certainly. So, one of the things that we're looking at is a comprehensive plan for their athletic fields. As it was stated, I think 2 years ago, the Athletic Director and President of the College as a National NJCAA College, their fields are inadequate. They're often times sledded and really not playable. So, at the time they asked for new turf field. It was denied and then this later phase came upon them. One of the questions had

been asked of purchasing College stadium or Diethrick Park. There is an issue with that that if the City were to sell that to Jamestown Community College, they would also have to find the equivalent of acreage of a park in the City of Jamestown. For example, if Diethrick Park is 20 acres, the City would have to find 20 acres of Parkland within the City boundary to then replace what they would sell Diethrick Park to the College floor. So, it really wasn't a feasible project at the time. So, what we're looking at is a long-term project and as discussed, we decided to do this – (*inaudible*) actually doing it in a 2 phased approach because there was some question as to the Counties ability and or funding the YMCA portion of this. So, the YMCA is doing their own work and we decided to divide this into a 2-phase project that way the County and the College could then apply for monies in the executive budget in the upcoming year.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you.

Legislator Niebel: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Since we're breaking this project into phases, I guess my question would be, will there be any County funds requested in phase 2? The next phase of this project?

Chairman Chagnon: My understanding of the phasing is that phase 1 will take care of the JCC portion of the project. Phase 2 will entail the YMCA portion of the project and the shared facility –

Legislator Niebel: The wellness facility?

Chairman Chagnon: Yes, it would be shared between JCC and the YMCA. Am I correct on that? We have the Director of the YMCA sitting in the back and he just gave me a thumbs up so I did okay.

Legislator Niebel: Okay. Well, I guess either for you or Mr. Panebianco. Does anybody anticipate coming back to us for additional funds for phase 2?

Chairman Chagnon: Let me put it this way, when phase 2 goes forward –

Legislator Niebel: Assuming that it does.

Chairman Chagnon: JCC will have a cost into the shared portion of the project and they will be looking for support from the County for the Counties portion of that shared cost.

Legislator Niebel: Of phase 2?

Chairman Chagnon: Of phase 2. For the shared portion, not the YMCA portion. YMCA portion will be funded solely by the YMCA. Am I doing okay John? Yep, another thumbs up.

Legislator Niebel: Okay, and Mr. Chairman, you're doing well but I guess I'd like to just have some sort of idea. Phase 1, the County's in for this project for about ¼ of 12 million or

roughly 3 million dollars so, do we have any idea what the Counties total cost of the project might be? Just roughly?

Chairman Chagnon: I believe that numbers in the neighborhood of 19 million. Johns' eyes are rolling back there.

Legislator Niebel: 19 million? Oh boy.

Chairman Chagnon: Maybe Kathleen can help me?

Kathleen Dennison, Interim Executive Director of Administrative Services for JCC: 19 million for the YMCA portion. (*Inaudible*) and the JCC portion including the shared portion should be around 24 million dollars.

Chairman Chagnon: 24 million dollars.

Legislator Niebel: Okay, I'm just interested in potential County funds, total County funds that might be involved in this project.

Kathleen Dennison, Interim Executive Director of Administrative Services for JCC: (*Inaudible*) 6 million dollars.

Chairman Chagnon: 6 million dollars.

Legislator Niebel: Okay, so 3 million roughly for phase 1 and then how many phases are there? Are there 2 phases?

Chairman Chagnon: 2.

Legislator Niebel: Okay, so 3 million for phase 1 and the County share for phase 2, another 3 million?

Chairman Chagnon: Yes.

Legislator Niebel: Okay, so a total of 6?

Chairman Chagnon: Yes.

Legislator Niebel: Okay, I just wanted to know. Look, I think this is a very ambitious project. I voted against it a year ago, I will be again today but I wish the folks involved with this project the best of luck, really.

Chairman Chagnon: Okay, thank you. Any other questions?

Legislator Scudder: Yeah, I do have a question about this. I'm a little confused. I thought this resolution was for the design of this project? Or is it for the project itself?

Chairman Chagnon: The next resolution is for design.

Legislator Scudder: Okay, so we're first going to vote for the project itself and then we're going to vote for the design of it?

Chairman Chagnon: The first resolution we are joining the JCC and requesting the Governor include phase 1 project in the SUNY capital request for 2026/2027. We're not making any commitments at that point other than we're requesting the participation in the budget and if it is included and then our funds are needed, we will have another resolution come to us for funding that portion of it.

Legislator Scudder: So, we're not committing any County funds at this time?

Chairman Chagnon: We're not allocating any funds with this resolution. The next resolution we are allocating for the design.

Legislator Scudder: Okay, thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: A lot of good questions tonight. I'm glad John and Kathleen were here. Any other questions or comments on the resolution? Hearing none, all those in favor please say "aye", "opposed"? We have 1 "No". With 1 "No" it is adopted.

RES. NO. 283-25 ADOPTED with Legislator Niebel voting "No"

284-25 Establish Capital Accounts – Design of JCC/YMCA Wellness Center, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – ADOPTED with Legislator Niebel voting "No"

285-25 Amend 2025 Budget for the Chautauqua County Department of Emergency Medical Services-EMT/CPR Training, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

286-25 Authorize Agreement with Fluvanna Fire District to House Fly Car M74 and Paramedic, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

287-25 Authorize Execution of NYS Office of Homeland Security Funding Grant Next Generation 911 (NG911) Grant FY 2025, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

288-25 Amend 2025 Budget for Office of the Sheriff, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

289-25 Authorize Agreement with Town of Hanover for Enhanced Police Protection Services FY 2026 and 2027, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

290-25 Authorize Agreement with Various Towns for Enhanced Police Protection Services FY26, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

291-25 Authorize Agreement with Various Towns for Court Security Services FY 26, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

292-25 Authorize Contracts and Agreements with Local Police Departments and Chautauqua County Departments for 2025-2026 STOP-DWI Enforcement Efforts, by Public Safety Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

293-25 Amend 2025 Budget for Interest Adjustments, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

294-25 Distribution of Mortgage Taxes, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

295-25 Authorizing Settlement of Claims of J.B., by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Legislator Bankoski: Yes, I'd like to make a motion to block 296-25 through 302-25.

Legislator Chagnon: Okay, we have a motion to block. Is there a second?

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson to block resolutions 296-25 through 302-25 – Unanimously Carried to block

Legislator Scudder: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this is a great idea, thank you. We haven't had many comments tonight so I just thought I'd throw that out there.

296-25 Making Appropriations for the Conduct of County Government For Fiscal Year 2026 - R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

297-25 Authorize Tax Levy - R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

298-25 Authorize Levy of Town Taxes - R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

299-25 Authorize Levy of Unpaid Town Charges - R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

300-25 Authorize Levy of Omitted Taxes - R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

301-25 Authorize Levy of Unpaid Sewer User Charges & Civil Penalties- North, South & Center Chautauqua Lake & Portland-Pomfret-Dunkirk Sewer Districts - R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

302-25 Fixing Equalization Rates for 2026

Chairman Chagnon: Are there any questions, comments on any of the resolutions, 296-25 through 302-25?

Legislator Gustafson: Yes, thank you, Chairman. On 302-25, I just think it should be known that the County equalization rate is established by New York State using a formula that they both created and administered.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you for that. Any other questions or comments on any of the blocked resolutions? Hearing none, would the Clerk please call the roll call on all of the blocked resolutions, 296-25 through 302-25?

RES. NO. 296-25 through 302-25 R/C Vote: 16 YES; 0 NO; 3 Absent (Landy, Larson, Proctor) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Chagnon: That brings us to announcements on our agenda. Are there any announcements from any Legislators? Any Legislator like to share an announcement?

Legislator Nelson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Jamestown's Christmas parade is Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 PM along 3rd street. There will be fireworks immediately following Santa's arrival so hope to see all of you there.

Chairman Chagnon: County Executive, you have something to share?

County Executive Paul M. Wendel, Jr.: I do. I would like everyone to realize that everyone the long-awaited Tim Hortons here in Mayville is now open. Legislator Anthony, brought it to mind but it's been a long-awaited store in the Village here, so I'm encouraging everybody to support it, thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: Any other announcements? That's all we have for tonight. That will bring us to our second privilege of the floor.

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: Thank you. Anyone else wishing to address the second privilege of the floor?

Legislator Buchanan: I don't know if this is the time to bring that up?

Chairman Chagnon: I'll take care of it. We worked this out just before the meeting. So, Legislator Buchanan requested that we share a little time for a presentation this evening by a representative that he has come into contact with and I would like her to come down front and present the information that she would like to share with us and with the greater community and Marcus, if you could do me the favor of introducing our guest.

Legislator Buchanan: Okay. This is Mrs. Shaela Cologne. She works for the Resource Center and I had a conversation with her about the last meeting that we had here dealing with the SNAP benefits and you know the inflation and stuff for food and the taxes. So, I finally found out who she was, caught up with her and we had a nice conversation and I invited her to come down so she could share all the information that she has.

Hello, my name is Shaela Gonzalez Cologne. I'm a social navigator for the Resource Center. We're working with Medicaid with a new program that they have made. It's called the 1115 waiver. This program is helping individuals to qualify for any free non-medical services above and beyond what they already receive. So, this program could help individuals with food insecurity. This could help individuals with utility assistance. This could also help individuals with rental assistance. This could help with the (*inaudible*) assistance. This could help with community transitional services. This could help individuals essentially get new furniture for their home, new beds for children and families that are in the County. This program is – I'm not going to say this right, but this program, I believe is until May 2027. This is a test to see if it works. If it works, what their planning on doing is that this is going to be incorporated to Medicaid. So, individuals that have Medicaid could potentially be receiving these services. The good thing about this program is that lets say an adult doesn't qualify for this program. A child

might because they might have a chronic condition. They might have asthma. So, this could potentially help that family either move to a new place that doesn't have any lead or any mold. That it's appropriate for that family. A lot of families here in Chautauqua County are living in condemned places and that's not okay for families to be living this way. It is hard for them to find services like this one that would help them with rental assistance and security deposits. Maybe because of their income but some people are still on Medicaid and still qualify for this program that might not qualify for section 8. They might not qualify for DSS. They might not qualify for food stamps but with this program, they might be able to receive a food box for their entire family up to 6 months on a weekly basis. This is fresh fruits, fresh veggies, fresh meat. This is potentially beneficial for that family and that is all I have.

Legislator Gustafson: How will they access this program?

Shaella Gonzalez Cologne: This program – they could access the program through the 1115 website which has (*inaudible*) and so individuals can also do the screening part on their own and a person like me who does screening and navigation, could call them because (*inaudible*) has a team that refers those individuals to us and we can do the navigation part which if they qualify for the services, they could potentially be receiving the services that they need for the family.

Legislator Dickey: Are you collaborating with the County programs? Are you coordinating at least a communication channel between the County and the State or this is a State program?

Shaella Gonzalez Cologne: This is a State program.

Legislator Dickey: Right, so how are you communicating with the Medicaid recipients to let them know here in Chautauqua County that this 1115 program is available to them?

Shaella Gonzalez Cologne: What the Resource Center is doing on our end because there is a lot of other individuals that are working this program, is that we have personally reached out to individuals. Like I have walked some parts of Chautauqua County and I have left flyers in people's mailboxes or in front of their homes. We are also partnered with Jamestown Pediatrics and on Tuesday and Thursdays, we go in and we do screenings and navigations for those families as well. I also have reached out to a local hotel that helps individuals that are homeless with DSS and we are going to help those individuals see if they qualify for those services. Another coworker of mine actually went to Jamestown Housing Community and she actually did some screenings for those individuals that are homeless as well. And I believe the Medicaid sent a text blast to Chautauqua County members that have Medicaid explaining the program. In that text, they included the website where those individuals could be screened and Medicaid is also calling those recipients and telling them "Hey, we're here, we're trying to help you to see if you qualify for any free non-medical services that are available for you".

Legislator Dickey: What about seniors? Are you working with senior citizens and collaborating with Office of the Aging or any of those, the Y?

Shaela Gonzolaz Cologne: The Y.

Dana Corwin, Director of Chautauqua County Office for the Aging: We could add in a little more if that's okay? Dana Corwin, Director of Chautauqua County Office for the Aging. You did a beautiful job explaining the program (*inaudible*) 1115 been in a process for many, many years.

Legislator Buchanan: Can she speak into the mic?

Dana Corwin: I sure can. So, Dana Corwin, Director of Chautauqua County Office for the Aging. And the 115 waivers been in a process for the last 7/8 years and we are working with WNYICC which is Western New York Integrated Collaborative Care. They are a social care hub and they are the conveyor and the coordinator. The Office for the Aging is actually contracting with them as a vendor to provide services to people and Marcus, you beat me to it because we had this conversation last meeting and today, I just presented to our staff, cobranded materials, Office for the Aging and the 1115 waiver with WNYICC that she's describing about if you're an older adult and you need services, these are services that could be available to you. You can go on the website, as she described and do a self-evaluation or you can go to a partner like the Resource Center or Evergreen or some other agencies. Catholic charities is another one and they can assist with the assessment but you're right, there's a whole lot available through that 115 waiver that can help our older adults and our younger folks as well. Rent, we talked about food, we talked about appliances. There's a lot there and so now the word is just getting out and about 6 weeks after you and I talked, I had reached out to WNYICC and just got things cobranded with CHQ Aging. So yes, senior citizens are covered and that Medicaid blast to all the recipients will be a big help. Any questions for me?

Legislator Buchanan: Well, at this time I didn't know it was the same program. I didn't know. We did discuss this. When we had a conversation with her, I'm like could this be the same program?

Dana Corwin: It was, it was and in the context of tonight I was going to talk to you after the meeting to tell you that this is what we had found. And we are working getting that word out for older adults and for the program for any age.

Legislator Buchanan: Thank you. I have one questions. As far as appliances – say if a apartment or a house has lead. Does this program have anything to do with – do they do any repairs, any remodeling if a house comes with lead and you have to get new windows?

Shaela Gonzalez Cologne: Yes, the program (*inaudible*) are closed right now because of the funding but yes, there is help with lead, and they can also help with putting a new kitchen if

this is needed to be remodeled just because there's mold in there or if there's any lead paint. This could also help with mice infestation. This could help with roach infestation.

Chairman Chagnon: Shaela, thank you very much for your presentation and Legislator Buchanan, thank you very much for bringing this to us. This was an excellent sharing of information follow on from our emergency meeting and this is excellent information that we can help get the word out to the community. So, thank you.

MOVED by Legislator Gustafson, SECONDED by Legislator Pavlock to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (7:11 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Olivia Lee, Clerk of the Legislature & Kristi Zink, Deputy Clerk