

Chautauqua County Legislature
Live Streamed on YouTube
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 6:30 p.m.
Mayville, N.Y. 14757

Chairman Chagnon called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Chairman Chagnon: I will call to order the meeting of the Chautauqua County Legislature on December 17, 2025. Would the Clerk please call the roll?

Clerk Lee called the roll and announced a quorum present.

Legislator Harmon delivered the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson and duly carried the minutes were approved. (11/19/25)

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.

COMMENDATIONS:

Jail Accreditation
By
New York State Sheriff's Association

Recognizing Outgoing Legislators

THOMAS CARLE – DISTRICT 4
TERRY NIEBEL – DISTRICT 5
PHILLIP LANDY – DISTRICT 9
TAMARA DICKEY – DISTRICT 11

PRESENTATION:

**Recommendations and Proposed Amendments to the
Chautauqua County Charter and Administrative Code**

By

**Steve Abdella of the Chautauqua County Charter and
Code Review Commission**

Clerk Lee: There are no veto messages from County Executive Wendel from the November 19, 2025 meeting.

**VETO MESSAGES FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE WENDEL
NO VETOES FROM 11/19/2025**

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. Letter – Memorandum re: Proposed Amendments to the County Charter and Administrative Code
 2. Report – Finance Director Kitty Crow, Re: September 2025 Investment Report
 3. Affidavit or Publication (2) re: Notice of Estoppel - Resolution 272-25 (Post Journal and Observer)
 4. Affidavit or Publication (2) re: Notice of Estoppel - Resolution 273-25 (Post Journal and Observer)
 5. Affidavit or Publication (2) re: Notice of Estoppel - Resolution 274-25 (Post Journal and Observer)
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RESOLUTIONS:

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson to block resolutions 303-25 through 311-25 – Unanimously Carried to block

303-25 Confirm Appointment and Reappointments - Airport Commission, by Public Facilities Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

304-25 Confirm Re-Appointments – Portland-Pomfret-Dunkirk Sewer District Board, by Public Facilities Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

305-25 Confirm Re-Appointments – Parks Commission, by Public Facilities Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

306-25 Confirm Reappointments – Chautauqua County Office for the Aging Advisory Council, by Human Services Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

307-25 Confirm Appointments – Chautauqua County Community Service Board, by Human Services Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

308-25 Confirm Reappointments - Chautauqua County Planning Board, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

309-25 Confirm Reappointments – Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

310-25 Confirm Reappointments- Conewango Watershed Commission, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

311-25 Confirm Reappointments to the Chautauqua County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Chairman Chagnon: Are there any questions or comments on any of the blocked resolutions 303-25 to 311-25? Any questions or comments on any of them? Hearing none, all those in favor of the blocked resolutions 303-25 through 311-25, please say “aye”, opposed? They are carried.

312-25 Confirm Transfer of Hangar A at the Chautauqua County Airport – Jamestown from CCIDA to the County, by Public Facilities, Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

313-25 Authorize Federal and State Aid Applications for the Chautauqua County Dunkirk Airport Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) for FY 2026-2030, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

314-25 Authorize Federal and State Aid Applications for the Chautauqua County Jamestown Airport Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) for FY 2026 2030, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

315-25 Authorize Public Hearing for Lease of Restaurant Facilities at Chautauqua County Airport Jamestown Airport to Archies Airport Diner LLC, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

316-25 Amend 2025 Budget to Increase the GOB Security Project Budget, Using Interest Earnings from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees

Legislator Larson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for this chair, its never squeaked like this before. The American Rescue Plan – I was not a member of the Legislature at the time of having the ability to influence how President Biden’s 26 million dollars, I think it was 26 million dollars to Chautauqua County was spent. My impression though is that the County Government, Legislature, Executive, Department Heads - my impression is that his County spent the 26 million dollars well and it was a rare circumstance where essentially the Biden Administration supportive majority in congress, gave this money out to municipalities to use their best judgment as to what long term benefit would be had for their communities make up their own minds. As I understand, very few strings were attached and here tonight we’re still benefiting adding into 2026, 2027, we’re still benefiting in the next Legislature in this case, interest earnings from the ARPA funds. Never is a long time but it’s a pretty good guess that at least those of us with 7 decades or so on our resumes, we’ll never see the federal government send municipalities like Chautauqua County 26 million dollars again and trust us to do the best with it that we determine on our own. It was a great opportunity and my impression is that the Legislature used that 26 million very well, thank you.

RES. NO. 316-25 – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

317-25 Authorize Agreement with the Town of Sheridan for Maintenance of the North Chautauqua County Water District’s Water Tank Property on Miller Road in the Town of Sheridan, New York, by Public Facilities Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

318-25 Authorize Agreement with Various Towns for Court Security Services FY 26, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

319-25 Authorize Agreement with Town of Charlotte for Enhanced Police Protection Services FY26, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

320-25 Authorize Agreements between Chautauqua County Emergency Medical Services (CEMS) and Any City or other Municipality within Chautauqua County for the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Program, by Public Safety Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

- 321-25 Continue Agreement with New York State Department of Health for Bathing Beach Water Quality Monitoring and Notification Program,** by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 322-25 Continue Agreements with Health Research Incorporated to receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Funding,** by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 323-25 Authorize Memorandum of Understanding with New York State Unified Court System for Technology Upgrades to Courtrooms,** by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 324-25 Authorize Acceptance of SFY 2025-2026 Aid to Prosecution Funds,** by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 325-25 Amend 2026 Budget for Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance Grant,** by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 326-25 Amend 2026 Budget - Countywide Resiliency Grant,** by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 327-25 Amend Capital Project Accounts—Jamestown Community College,** by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 328-25 Amend Capital Project Budget for the Northern Chautauqua Local Waterfront Revitalization Program,** by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Gustafson to block resolutions 329-25 through 333-25 – Unanimously Carried to Block*
- 329-25 Authorize Agreement with the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency for Attraction, and Development of Tourism Related Businesses,** by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 330-25 Authorize Agreement with County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency for Business Development, Assistance and Promotion,** by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
- 331-25 Authorize Agreement with Chautauqua County Region Economic Development Corporation for Greenway Development,** by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

332-25 Authorize Agreement with Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation for Tourism Development and Placemaking, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

333-25 Authorize Agreement with Small Business Development Center at Jamestown Community College, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Legislator Larson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My comment really applies all 5 of these resolutions. At the Economic Development Committee meeting last Wednesday evening, through questioning of the folks in front of us, none of these 5 resolutions which use words such as attraction, development, business development, assistance, promotion. None of them offer any funds for job training and I am concerned heading into 2026 as a legislator coming back here, I want our Economic Development Committee to explore what is going on with JCC in terms of job training in the north county? (*Inaudible*) what is the future of job corps in Cassadaga. To me, attracting new businesses, retaining businesses, the county and its IDA offering some job training resources on a consistent annual basis is critical and I supported all 5 of these resolutions in our committee meeting but the fact is, there really is no money in our 300-million-dollar 2026 budget for job training including there's no money in these 5 resolutions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Any other questions or comments on any of the blocked resolutions? Hearing none, all those in favor of blocked resolutions 329-25 through 333-25 please say aye, opposed? They are carried.

334-25 Approve SEQRA Review of 2% In-Lake Occupancy Tax Grant Program Projects for 2026, by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

335-25 Approves SEQRA Review of 2% Watershed Occupancy Tax Grant Program Projects for 2026, by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

336-25 Setting the Salary for the Network Security Analyst, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees

RES. NO. 336-25 - *R/C Vote: 19 YES; 0 NO; – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED*

MEMORIALS:

Francis E. “Fran” Lus
By
Legislator John Penhollow

Lance S. Spicer
By
Legislator Lisa Vanstrom

Richard C. Babbage
By
Chairman Pierre Chagnon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Chagnon: That brings us to announcements on our agenda. Are there any announcements from any Legislators for the good of the order? Any announcements? I understand it's a quiet time of the year.

Legislator Vanstrom: We had 2 special birthdays yesterday, one was John Penhollow and one was Jamie Gustafson.

Chairman Chagnon: Woah, Happy Birthday. Two in one. Any other announcements? Hearing none, we will move to the 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.

Hi, Good Evening, my name is Anthony Toda and I live at 144 Clifton Avenue, Jamestown, New York. I'm making my opinions and part based on media reports. It is our moral duty and obligation to contact all of our federal representatives for continuing economic and military support for Ukraine. Reports state that close to 2 million Russian soldiers have died and massive amounts of Russian military equipment has been lost. Putin's propaganda lies are intended to give the rest the impression that Russia can continue this *(inaudible)* indefinitely. Russia cannot continue to fight a protractive war in Ukraine as long as military support from the U.S. continues. In the Russian Afghanistan war, Russians Vietnam, multi support from the U.S. *(inaudible)* Russian personnel equipment and Russia had to withdrawal. With U.S. continued

military support, the same thing will happen in Ukraine. At this critical time, don't allow this (*inaudible*) of Putin's lies to steal land from Ukraine because Russian military has been so depleted, that Russia will eventually have to withdraw from this war. Now regarding the Brown University shooting, when are Americans going to realize that federal agencies been on destroying the second amendment provided an avenue for the shooter to enter an unprotected area as has been the case historically and recently. The state criminals imbedded in the FBI in order of (*inaudible*) government agencies, masterminding crimes by using millions of our tax dollar. FBI began violating my rights and assaulting me 3 decades ago. When I called the FBI Buffalo to complain, one of the many sick responses to me was "I'm going to blow your genitals off". I took my taped evidence to then Senator Hillary Clinton's Buffalo office. I was told that this (*inaudible*) evidence the FBI would be produced on the Senate floor. I was promptly arrested by the FBI and then I was barred from entering Senator Clinton's Buffalo office. I had been attempting to produce substantial evidence against the FBI to Senator Charles Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand and representative Nick Langworthy who have refused to examine my evidence. Why won't these representatives examine my evidence? Senator Gillibrand and representative Langworthy are criminally complicit in the crimes upon myself and need to be prosecuted and jailed for such complicity. Thank you and I hope everybody has a good holiday.

Legislator Larson: Mr. Chairman, I knew Fran Lus rather well. His 12 years as a legislator from Brocton Portland overlapped with the 8 years that I was privileged to serve as County Attorney. Fran was obviously well liked by the people of Brocton and Portland and he was just a people person just like me. Everybody loved Fran, everybody did. It was a 25-member legislature then and if there was a vote for most lovable legislature, I think Fran would have won every year. Not only was he a great person and so kind, but he was a – an addition to being a Yankees fan, as a North County legislator, I had the privilege of sitting with him many times in the College stadium in Jamestown. He was a great fan of minor league New York Penn baseball in Jamestown and he made that drive from Brocton to come down and enjoy a beautiful summer evening ball game in the great City of Jamestown. I had the privilege of continuing to know him after my time ended as County Attorney in 2005 so I thank you for letting me just say some kind words about a great wonderful man and the fact that he lived to be 92 and so did Dick Babbage, I find that very encouraging, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Good evening, my name is Tammy Schack, a resident of the Town of Ellery and a Director of Chautauqua Lake Property Owners Association, the CLPOA. I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about the Lake once again. The CLPOA's next public meeting, "Wetlands" public meeting #14 is our sixteenth and will be held Saturday, January 10, 2026 from 9:30 to 11:00am at the Lawson Center in Bemus Point. We recall seeing Mr. Penhollow at one of our early meetings and we hope more of you especially the lakeside legislators, Mr. Penhollow, Ms. Vanstrom, Ms. Gustafson, Mr. Proctor and Mr. Chagnon along with County Executive Wendel we invite you to attend this meeting. We promise you will get a valuable prospective on some Lake issues that you are not going to get as a county representative. Some of you have referred to the CLPOA as an advocacy group to differentiate us from the 3 lake maintenance organizations. The Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management alliance funds those 3 with hundreds of thousands of dollars each year and will soon grant 6 alliance boards

seats to them. In that context, we do not argue with the advocacy group characterization of the CLPOA. In fact, we in our almost 500 supporters, cherish our independence from the County and State funding and DEC therefore permitting influence in our ability to tell it like it is. The Chautauqua Institution is also an advocacy group but with a formal fiduciary responsibility to only its property owners and no Lake maintenance but with a strong voice in the County ear. In fact, an Institution Executive is likely to be soon appointed as an alliance board member while new organizations like the CLPOA cannot be members. In any case, the CLPOA board wishes all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and Happy New Year. We hope the New Year will bring a significant increase in the legislator's attention to Chautauqua Lake and the existential threat affecting its viability and role as the Counties economic engine and cash cow. We hope lakeside legislators and the County Executive take notice of recent County election results and understand that the property owners, year around and seasonal, expect them to remedy unacceptable Lake conditions with a comprehensive plan, strong leadership, effective management, something which has been missing for decades. It's your job to do it and with that, I thank you all and I will see you next year.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Anyone else wishing to address the second privilege of the floor? Anyone else? Seeing no one, I will close the second privilege of the floor and I'm looking for someone to wish us all a Happy Holidays and I saw a hand go up down front and Legislator Bankoski?

Legislator Bankoski: I'd just like to wish everybody a Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas and a motion to adjourn.

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

Unanimously Carried (7:51 p.m.)

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