

Regular Meeting  
Chautauqua County Legislature  
**Live Streamed on YouTube**  
Wednesday, June 28, 2023 6:30 p.m.  
Mayville, N.Y. 14757

Chairman Chagnon called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Chairman Chagnon: I will call to order the meeting of the Chautauqua County Legislature on June 28, 2023. Would the clerk please call the roll?

Clerk Lee called the roll and announced a quorum present (Absent: Scudder)

Legislator Gustafson delivered the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Legislator Niebel: We were saddened by the sudden passing of John Walker earlier this month. John was a true leader in our community whether it was in his role of Sheridan Town Supervisor or his involvement with many boards especially the North County Water District. John was also a successful business man but above all else, John was a loving and devoted family man. Our thoughts are with his wife, Carol, and with his son, John Jr., we pray that they find peace. John Walker was a good man. He was honest, he was hard working and dedicated to all those he served and loved. He will be sorely missed. If we could have a moment of silence for John Walker? Thank you.

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Harmon and duly carried the minutes were approved. (5/24/2023)

1<sup>st</sup> 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.

Good evening, my name is Reverend Chloe Smith. I live at 14 Chambers Street in Jamestown, New York and I'm a part of the African American community group which is made up of pastors and leaders of both the North and South of Chautauqua County. We began meeting in 2020. Our group encourages civic engagements and we are solution oriented. We try to cultivate positive relationships and build connections that result in positive change throughout our County. I want to give you 2 examples of what we do. We've had the opportunity to work with Chief Jackson and his officers and I was so glad to see Sheriff Quattrone come in because we've worked closely with him also trying to cultivate better relationships between law enforcement and the African American community. We also currently work with Dr. Whitacre and Jamestown Public Schools as principles and as teachers. We do things like address racism

within the school system. We also advocated for 2 navigators at Jamestown Public School and they work as and stand in the gap for families so that schools and families can have better communication. And today my hope is to further develop and strengthen the relationship of the African American community with our County by declaring my support for the motion and I just want to thank Legislator Wilfong for initiating this motion. I want to thank all of the sponsors who are Legislators Nelson, Torres and Rankin of Jamestown. Legislators Parker of Fredonia, Legislator Bankoski of Dunkirk, Legislator Harmon of Silver Creek and Legislator Vanstrom of the Town of Ellicott, Village of Celoron and Falconer. We support this motion and desire to partner with the County to help realize the vision of Chautauqua County being a welcoming place for all people. What we need in this nation is not going to come from Washington DC, come on somebody. It's not going to come from Albany. We, Chautauqua County, and I'm going to go ahead, I'm a preacher, I'm going to go ahead and speak it fourth by faith but I believe God told me that Chautauqua County is supposed to be the blue print for this nation. When it's too big, you know its God. But we are meant to be the blueprint of this nation, of collaboration, of being a beloved community where every single person knows that they are welcome here and has the ability to thrive. We are a County that believes in equality, justice and respect for all. We are a County who believed in one nation, indivisible and under God. A diverse and inclusive environment that benefits every single person that comes here. So I'm coming into agreement with this motion that denounces racism and commits to striving to make Chautauqua County a better place to live, work and play. We are a welcome community to all. We denounce racism in all forms and we commit to fight to end all forms of racism and injustice. We welcome everyone to be a part of this revitalization (*inaudible*). Revitalization is happening all over our County. I am not a part of the IDEA coalition but it is an organization with 37 members including the City of Dunkirk, the City of Jamestown, Jamestown Public Schools, Cummins, UPMC Chautauqua, I can go on and on about the different organizations that have partnered together to say we want equality and equity for all and I'm so thankful to live in a County that believes that and I want to thank every single Legislator under the sound of my voice, thank you for all the hard work that you're going to make our community a better place. Thank you so much and God bless you.

Good evening, my name is Tom Lavoe. I have the privilege of pasturing Mayville and Kidder Memorial United Methodist Churches. I live at 222 Park Street in the City of Jamestown. I want to speak in favor of the resolution that my sister just referenced. I could tell you that I don't have her energy but when I think about equality and justice, I often hear people say "well I don't see color" and I think for a minute. Well that's good but – no wait a minute, I should see color. I should see every color and in seeing color I need to look at what that person's life is like, what my life is like and is it any different because of their color? So with that in mind, I encourage you folks to vote positive for the resolution. Thank you.

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**VETO MESSAGES FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE WENDEL  
NO VETOES FROM 5/24/23**

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**COMMENDATIONS:**

**CERTIFICATE AWARDS  
To High School  
VALEDICTORIANS and SALUTATORIANS  
By  
Chairman Pierre E. Chagnon  
County Executive Paul M. Wendel, Jr.**

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**PRESENTATION:**

**Planning Board's Review of  
2024 Capital Projects  
By Doug Bowen**

Mr. Bowen: If the Chairman doesn't mind, I'd just like to make a little statement in regards to the certificates given to the County valedictorians and salutatorians. Just that you never know where life will take you when you're in school. When I was in college, one of the required courses that we had to take was speech writing course and delivery and at that point in time in my life I was going back to the dairy farm and what am I going to do? Give a speech to my cows every morning? Here we are, many years later and I'm in front of this distinguished group giving a presentation for capital project recommendations to the County Legislature so you just never know where life is going to take you.

County Executive Wendel, Mr. Chairman, County Legislators, ladies and gentlemen: My name is Douglas Bowen, and I am Chairman of the Chautauqua County Planning Board. The County Administrative Code charges the County Planning Board with the responsibility of annually reviewing capital requests from county departments and making recommendations to County Government with respect to estimated costs, project justification, and priority. This evening I am here on behalf of the Chautauqua County Planning Board to present the Board's report, with recommendations for the 2024 Capital Budget, and the 2025-2029 Capital Plan. Capital budgeting is the process of evaluating and selecting Capital Projects that align with the goals and strategies of the County. It involves estimating the costs, benefits, and risks of different projects and choosing the ones that maximize the County's values with conflicting objectives and constraints. However, capital budgeting is not a simple or straightforward task. We are choosing between projects, across departmental lines, that result in different types of benefits for different segments of the County's population. This is compounded by the fact that we are faced with a rising public demand for new and better services while feeling the pressure to lower the tax burden. Departments look for alternative funding sources for capital projects, but the options are limited. Inevitably, the end cost of doing business falls to the taxpayers. After all proposed projects are prioritized the Planning Board Reviews the ranking from two more viewpoints: (1) the board provides what it calls a "common sense test"? The Board asks themselves, has a project been ranked unexpectedly high or low, and (2) are there any linkages between projects? Such as are any projects related to each other geographically, or otherwise, such that having them accomplished concurrently would be

advantageous? What about sequencing or timing? Are any projects dependent on the completion of other projects? After this review, the Planning Board may make adjustments to the project ranking. As I have said in the past, the Capital Project review process is a process of obtaining good information, and making the best use of the information requires a partnership with all parties involved. The Planning Board does not underestimate the human effort required to execute the capital planning and budgeting process by county departments. However, in the end the investment of time is well spent and if done correctly will benefit county operations and the taxpayers. This year, the Planning Board reviewed 37 county funded capital projects, 6 enterprise funded capital projects, and 10 FAA/State funded capital projects for the 2024 capital budget. An additional 55 projects were reviewed for the 2025 – 2029 capital plan. These projects were submitted by 10 various Chautauqua County departments. If you separate out the sub-departments that are under the umbrella of “Public Facilities,” there were submissions from 15 different departments and divisions. The total cost requested for the 43 capital projects for fiscal year 2024 reviewed, without FAA/State funded airport projects, was \$20,733,510. The county share of these projects was \$8,811,255. The Capital Project Report is broken into multiple tables for your use. Table A, on page 8, lists a total cost, and total County share, of the 2024 Capital Project Requests by department. Table B, on page 10, lists the Board's prioritization of county funded capital projects. The table contains corresponding page numbers to allow easy reference to project information. Table C, on page 12, lists the Prioritization of the requested Enterprise Funded Capital Projects for 2024. Again, the table contains corresponding page numbers to allow easy reference to project information. Table D, on page 14, lists the Prioritization of the requested Airport Capital Projects, and the County Vehicle Requests are listed on page 16. This follows the same format that many of you have seen in past years and I hope you find the Board’s comments enlightening. As you can see from the number of tables listed, the capital review process is long and complicated. It is important to not just view this as another annual process that we as a government entity must go through. Capital projects are reviewed, ranked and prioritized because capital requests and needs almost always exceed available financing. Before I leave, I would like to thank the County Executive and the County Legislature for the appointments made to the County Planning Board. You have provided the Planning Board with a group of dedicated and knowledgeable individuals with diverse backgrounds who provide valuable insight into future planning for Chautauqua County. That said, I would like to thank all the members of the Chautauqua County Planning Board who volunteered many hours reviewing the Capital Projects. I commend them for their efforts. Thank you. Are there any questions? Thank you everybody.

Chairman Chagnon: Doug, thank you and your planning board for the invaluable work that you provide to not only the Legislature but to the entire County so thank you very much, we couldn’t begin to do it without you. Thank you.

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**VETO MESSAGES FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE WENDEL  
NO VETOES FROM 5/24/23**

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Clerk Lee: There are 10 communications listed on the agenda. Are there any items you wish you have read aloud? Please contact our office if you would like a copy of any of these items.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. **Letter – NYS Department of Taxation and Finance – 2023 State Equalization Rates**
2. **Minutes – Conewango Watershed Commission – April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Meeting**
3. **Affidavit of Publication – Legal Notice – Local Law 6-23 - (Post Journal and Observer)**
4. **Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Local Law Intro 6-23 (Post Journal and Observer)**
5. **Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Local Law 5-23 (Post Journal and Observer)**
6. **Letter – Senator George Borrello – Acknowledgement of Motion 13-23 (Opposing Waste Disposal Surcharges and Requesting an Exemption for Planning Units)**
7. **Letter – NYS Department of Taxation and Finance – 2023 State Equalization Rates**
8. **Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Public Hearing re: 2023 CDBG Application (Post Journal and Observer)**
9. **Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Public Hearing re: Concerning the Proposed Reduction of Inflow and Infiltration in the NCLSD Collection System (Post Journal and Observer)**
10. **Affidavit of Publication (2) – Legal Notice – Public Hearing re: Modifications to Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7 (Post Journal and Observer)**

6:35 P.M.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

*(Opened 6:58 p.m.)*

**A Public Hearing Pursuant to County Law §268 Upon a Proposal to Reduce Infiltration and Inflow in the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District**

Chairman Chagnon: We now have on our agenda, 3 public hearings. So I will at this time, open the first public hearing which is a A Public Hearing Pursuant to County Law §268 Upon a Proposal to Reduce Infiltration and Inflow in the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District. Is there anyone wishing to address the this public hearing? Anyone wishing to address the public hearing. Seeing no one, I will close the first public hearing.

*(Closed 6:59 p.m.)*

*(Opened 6:59 p.m.)*

**A Public Hearing on Modifications to Chautauqua  
County Agricultural District 7**

Chairman Chagnon: And now at this time I will convene the second public hearing which is A Public Hearing on Modifications to Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7. Is there anyone wishing to address this public hearing?

Clerk Lee: Mr. Chairman, I do have a short description to read quickly.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you.

Clerk Lee: I've been asked to read a short narrative before the start of this public hearing. The Chautauqua County Legislature is responsible for Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7 encompassing the Towns of Clymer, French Creek, Harmony, Mina, North Harmony and Sherman. In accordance with New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets an eight-year review was conducted for Ag. District 7. Land owners submitted proposed modifications to add or remove parcels to the Ag. District during the month of March. The Chautauqua County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board reviewed the requests and recommended for the continuation of Ag. District 7 with the addition of 10 parcels at the request of the land owners.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Now, with that excellent description, is there anyone wishing to address this public hearing? Anyone to address the public hearing? Seeing no one, I will close the second public hearing.

*(Closed 7:00 p.m.)*

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*(Opened 7:00 p.m.)*

**A Public Hearing Regarding a Potential Application for 2023  
Community Development Block Grant Funding through the New York State  
Office of Community Renewal and the Uses of Said Funding**

Chairman Chagnon: I will now convene the third public hearing A Public Hearing Regarding a Potential Application for 2023 Community Development Block Grant Funding through the New York State Office of Community Renewal and the Uses of Said Funding. And now I believe clerk, you have a comment to make on this one as well?

Clerk Lee: I do. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is a federally funded program authorized by Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 and administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Funds are provided directly by HUD to large municipalities (generally over 50,000 in population for cities, villages, and towns and 200,000 for counties) through the Formula Entitlement program. For all other municipalities, the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR) is New York State's designated agency for distributing CDBG funds through the Small Cities program. The CDBG program provides grants to municipalities in order to ensure safe, decent, and affordable housing; assist businesses and activities that will create and retain employment opportunities; and provide improved public facilities and services. The OCR generally only funds projects or activities where at least 51% of the activity beneficiaries are low- to moderate-income persons (LMI). A low- or moderate-income person is one who is a member of a family whose income is at or below 80% of the area median income established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Municipalities intending to apply for CDBG funding are required to hold a public hearing prior to submitting the application. The hearing is for the purpose of (i) soliciting public input regarding community development and housing needs in the municipality; and (ii) soliciting public comment regarding any specific activities proposed for submission. If funding is awarded, a second public hearing will be required during the implementation phase of the project or activity the CDBG funds are supporting. The Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation has asked Chautauqua County to apply for a grant in an estimated amount of \$180,000 from the OCR that will be provided as a grant to CREDC, which will use the funds to provide a loan or loans to Westfield Maid Cooperative, Inc., or an affiliated entity, to assist in financing a portion of the machinery and equipment and working capital costs associated with a project within the Town of Westfield. Westfield Maid Cooperative, Inc., or an affiliated entity, is proposing to develop, equip, furnish, and operate a juice production facility at 7505 E. Route 20, Westfield, New York. The total project cost is expected to be approximately \$2.8 million. The project is expected to create an estimated 12 full-time equivalent jobs, the majority of which will be held by or made available to low- and moderate- income individuals.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Now is there anyone wishing to address this public hearing? Anyone to address the public hearing? Seeing no one, I will close the third public hearing and we will now move onto resolutions.

*(Closed 7:03 p.m.)*

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**RESOLUTIONS:**

**171-23 Appointment of County Salary Commission**, by Administrative Services Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**172-23 Confirm Re-Appointment – Jamestown Community College Board of Trustees**, by Administrative Services Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

- 173-23 Confirm Appointments and Re-appointments – Traffic Safety Board**, by Public Safety Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 174-23 Confirm Appointments – Chautauqua County Board of Health**, by Human Services Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 175-23 Amend 2023 Budget to Implement the New Gerace Office Building Roof Restoration Project, Using Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 176-23 Authorize Transfer of Capital Funds between Capital Accounts and Closing of Capital Accounts**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 177-23 Acceptance of FAA and NYSDOT Funds to Replace thirty-four (34) Airfield Guidance Signs - Design project at the Chautauqua County/Jamestown Airport**, by Audit & Control Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 178-23 Acceptance of FAA and NYSDOT Funds for the Rehabilitate Taxiway A East Construction project at the Chautauqua County/Dunkirk Airport**, by Audit & Control Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- Legislator Rankin: Thank you. I think that as part of the critical infrastructure in Chautauqua County, it's important to support this change for this resolution for the two airports, thank you.
- 179-23 Adjust D.5112-Capital Improvement Accounts**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 180-23 North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District SEQRA Determination Concerning the Reduction of Inflow and Infiltration in the District**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 181-23 North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District Determinations in Relation to Reduction of Infiltration and Inflow**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 182-23 North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District Capital Account Establishment in Relation to Project for Reduction of Infiltration and Inflow**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED



- 183-23 A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,480,000 Bonds of the County of Chautauqua, New York, to Pay the Cost of the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District Infiltration and Inflow Reduction Project**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – R/C Vote: 18 Yes; 0 No; 1 Absent (Scudder) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 184-23 Authorize County to Apply for Grants and Loans on Behalf of the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District for Inflow and Infiltration Repair**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 185-23 Authorization for the County to Apply for Grants on Behalf of the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District for Review of Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 186-23 Authorize Amended Technology Innovations and Election Resource Grant Award from the New York State Board of Elections**, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- Legislator Rankin: I'm really happy to support our local Board of Elections, given all of the requirements and changes that come from the State and the way they have to adapt and adapt quickly and make changes and they keep our election process moving smoothly so it's really nice to see this on their behalf, thank you.
- 187-23 Authorize the Amendment of the Absentee Ballot Pre Paid Postage Grant Award from the New York State Board of Elections**, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 188-23 Amend 2023 Budget to Implement the Sheriff's Office Upgrades-Jail & Patrol Project, Using Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 189-23 Authorize Agreement with Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Erie II BOCES for Culinary Arts Instruction 2023-2024**, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 190-23 Amend 2023 Budget for Office of the Sheriff**, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 191-23 Amend 2023 Budget for Probation**, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
- 192-23 Close Health Department Petty Cash Fund**, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**193-23 Amend 2023 Budget Appropriations to Include Office of Mental Health (OMH) Block Grant for Evidence-Based Practice (EBP), Training, and Implementation for Children and Families**, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**194-23 Amend 2023 Budget Appropriations to Include Revenues Received by the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board (OSFAB)**, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Legislator Rankin: I really think this is a great opportunity to have these funds to be able to make up for some small part of the devastating effects of the opioid addiction epidemic that we've had. So I think this is a great thing to support not only for the people who are addicted and recovering, but for their families and for the whole community, thank you.

**195-23 Authorizing Contracts with Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties for SNAP Education Programming**, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**196-23 Authorizing Submittal of Application for 2023 Community Development Block Economic Development Grant Funding through the New York State Office of Community Renewal**, by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**197-23 Accept State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) of Agricultural District 7 8 Year Review**, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**198-23 Accept Proposed Modifications and Continuation of Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7**, by Planning and Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**199-23 Commitment of Matching Funds for a Grant Application to the New York State Consolidated Funding Application Program for Nonpoint Source Planning Grant**, by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**200-23 Authorizing SEQRA Review of 2024 Round of 2% Occupancy Tax Grant Program Recommendations**, by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**201-23 Amend 2023 Budget to Implement Lake Erie Sediment Assessments Using Funding from the 3% Occupancy Tax Program Reserve**, by Planning and Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

**202-23 Authorizing Sale of Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center in the Town of Ellicott Pursuant to County Law 215**, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – R/C Vote: 18 Yes; 0 No; 1 Absent (Scudder) – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

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**MOTION:**

**A. Promoting Equality and Inclusion and Denouncing Racism**

Clerk Lee: Motion A on the agenda, Promoting Equality and Inclusion and Denouncing Racism has received the required number of signatures to be brought to the floor.

Legislator Wilfong: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have that motion read aloud.

Chairman Chagnon: Okay, would the clerk please read the motion?

Clerk Lee: Title, Promoting Equality and Inclusion and Denouncing Racism. WHEREAS, racism, in all forms, is an issue that continues to cause harm, division, and injustice within our society; and WHEREAS, Chautauqua County firmly believes in equality, justice, and respect for all individuals, irrespective of their race, ethnicity, or cultural background; and WHEREAS, Chautauqua County recognizes that a diverse and inclusive environment benefits everyone by promoting understanding, empathy, and a sense of belonging; and WHEREAS, Chautauqua County remains committed to denouncing racism and striving to make Chautauqua County a better place to live, work and play; therefore be it KNOWN, The Chautauqua County Legislature, with great pride, hereby proclaims Chautauqua County to be a welcoming community while denouncing all forms of racism; and let it be MOVED, that the County Legislature urges all residents to join in the fight to end all forms of racism and injustice.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Is there any discussion, questions or comments on the motion that is on the floor?

Legislator Nelson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. First, I'd like this to address the inciting incident on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. This took place in a community where I have served as a high school history teacher for 36 years so I took it very personally and I was very offended by the incident and I made it a point to change my plans for that day and teach my classes about the use of blackface and its painful racist history. So I whole-heartedly support this motion. I think it's not only very important but it's our duty for this County Legislature to publicly denounce racist behaviors and state that this will not be tolerated. The motion is a good start. However, this is not as though we can just check the box and say "okay we've done that and we can move on". This

is a process, it's not an event. It will take time and our County and our and our Country has always been a work in progress so I look forward to establishing a working relationship with the group of pastors and community leaders who have addressed this and I think it's important that Chautauqua County is a place where all people feel welcomed and feel that they belong, thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Any other questions or comments on the motion?

Legislator Rankin: Thank you. What I like about this motion is that it gives us an opportunity to take a stand about how we feel and that we're ready to value, celebrate and respect every person, every individual for their background no matter what, their life experience and their life prospective because each person brings something different to the table and as far as that, we take all things into consideration, it's a great way to start to fight against racism and injustice, thank you.

Legislator Torres: I'm not going to talk about my own experiences dealing with racism and people, negative people I should say. I will say one thing, we were at the meeting a couple weeks ago at the blackface issue meeting that we had with several concerned members of the community, specifically African American. We were talking about diversity training and cultural diversity training and one of the ladies that I know very well, she looked at us and said "Why should people take trainings to like us?" and that stuck in my head because trainings are mostly online so you're not really engaging conversation with somebody that you may not ever witness their culture, or experience their culture. So it's kind of tough getting to know people that way so that has just stuck in my head and that's probably all I want to say about that. I'm not going – I could talk all night about experiences and things that I have witnessed and seen throughout all places in the public throughout Chautauqua County and beyond so that's all I wanted to point out. That comment stuck out very well.

Legislator Parker: I would just like to join with all the fellow Legislators but particularly what Legislator Nelson and Legislator Torres said about the existing inequality in Chautauqua County. I appreciate what Reverend Smith said about working together as a community and I think as Legislator Torres said, we really need to work together and that does involve sitting down with other groups and actually talking about what needs to be done, what prospectives there are and come towards a better Chautauqua County, thank you.

Legislator Torres: I'd also like to point out that the motion is a great thing. Thank you all for backing it up and supporting it. We really appreciate that but it's not the motion that's the most important here, it's the issue that we need to - like Mrs. Parker said, we need to communicate better, get out there and interact and respect each other as good human beings.

Legislator Bankoski: And not just what we do here, it's what we're going to do once we leave here to take action to actually do something. This is not just face talk and just saying yeah I support this but I've not walked a mile in Billy's shoes, nor do I want to. But I can support him as my friend that we're going to try to do what's right and try to fix the wrongs in our

community and make Chautauqua County like Pastor Smith said over there “let us be the focal point where it all starts at, not where it ends at”.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Any other questions, comments or discussion on the motion? Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye. Opposed?

*UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED*

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Legislator Vanstrom: It was brought to my attention that the annual farmer neighbor dinner is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 22 at the Grandview of Ellington and I see the renowned Emily Reynolds in the gallery. If I got the wrong date Emily, please correct me. It's a great event. It's almost like a showcase of production of what we have in Chautauqua County and it is a lot of fun and there is a lot of vendors, a lot of homemade items, donated items and it's a beautiful buffet at a very reasonable cost per ticket and it usually sells out so stay tuned, thank you.

Legislator Bankoski: Yes, on behalf of myself and Legislator Muldowney, we'd like to welcome you all down to the waterfront in Dunkirk for our 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display. It's always a show not to miss and it's a great venue to bring your family. You can bring a blanket and go to Memorial Park or you could park your car along Lakefront Boulevard and enjoy the show.

Legislator Harmon: Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank you. July 3<sup>rd</sup> there is a massive fireworks display in Siler Creek. So I'm inviting everyone down there to see what we do and how to do it. Thank you.

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### **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.

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I am Justin Gould and I am Chautauqua County's Media Information Officer and I just wanted to speak tonight a little bit to the Legislature, Department Heads and general public about my new role here in Chautauqua County government. As of Friday, it will be one month as the new media information officer. First, I just want to say thank you so much to the Legislature, the County Executive, but most of all the public for allowing me to assume this new frontier here in County government of trying to bridge the government and the news media and (*inaudible*) the

public. There's a lot of things happening. Honestly, the first two weeks were very overwhelming with meeting everybody and seeing just how much to do there is here and there is some big plans in the works to really integrate video into our story telling ability. Not only to connect the local news media, where if they can't come to events, we can have a video feed with audio and pictures that they can use but also the general public too. To be able to get the news from the horse's mouth. So I'm really looking forward to it. One of the things I want to say is that if anyone at any point has questions, please reach out to me because I'm really a tool to use for everybody. The legislature included, department heads, County Executive, other agencies to be able to work and communicate our message clearly and accurately. Coming from my background in news reporting, I've kind of treated it like that; I'm just the news reporter for the County and so far I think everything has gone really well. I have a goal of trying to do 1 press release every day and someday I get 2, which is nice so thank you.

Legislator Pavlock: I was doing some traveling today. I was coming home and I heard on the news that some seals had died on the West Coast from algae blooms and they had been washed up on the shore and they were foaming at the mouth and unresponsive and some already dead. I was able to look over at my wife and say that's something that could happen here at Chautauqua County. Our lake is considered to be on of the worst in the County, in the State for algae blooms and I probably could put it up against the Country and I was thankful we had a forward thinking County and wanted to take the opportunity to put a research center right here in the County to study this stuff. So I just thought that I wanted to share that new story that I had heard and thought that I had on that and just was thankful that we are supporting that research not only for Chautauqua County but for the State, for our Country and for the world, thank you.

Legislator Proctor: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yesterday, there was a funeral service in Erie for a State Trooper from Pennsylvania who was ambushed and killed. That 29 year old State Trooper grew up in Cory, Pennsylvania, a neighboring community and I was speaking today, through my work with one of the pastors that went to the funeral and I watched a little bit of the funeral and it just was a very stark reminder of how dangerous how our law enforcement people – how dangerous that job is. I just want to thank anyone in law enforcement. Sheriff Quattrone is here and all of our sheriffs and our State Troopers and our Village and City and anyone who goes to work and faces that amount of danger every day. Thank you and I appreciate their service.

Jim Quattrone, Jamestown, New York. So thank you Mr. Proctor. There is a bunch of topics I wanted to bring up but the motion that was passed tonight I am in full support of it. Unfortunately, in these United States and in this world and as probably as long as we have humanity, we're going to have hate. We really have to change our mindset. It's going to be a decision. We have to do that and we have to get out and educate ourselves. On Juneteenth, I realized there's people who I am close to who had no idea what Juneteenth was and what we were celebrating that day. And that's a lack of education. I think of the incident that Mr. Nelson brought up. I'd say there is a lot of ignorance there, not Mr. Nelson but the incident itself so I would encourage people to try and get yourself educated and learn. I had just come from a City that had and we think that we have homelessness in Chautauqua County. The city that I had just spent the week at, you can't go to an intersection or corner without seeing someone sleeping

there and we forget how good we have it. But we also forget how bad other people have it and we need to take the time to educate ourselves to learn and to talk to people who are different than us to find out how can we help them? It's something that if I can get out and communicate with other people, it is a blessing to be able to do that. Recently I met with a gentlemen and something that we've been trying to do is it's called "Movement Forward" and it's working law enforcement and community engagement programs and we want to be able to connect with our local faith leaders around the County because they're already in the communities and they could help us connect and learn more about how we can better those communities. I'm asking for all of your support on that. We're hoping August 15 or 16 to have a breakfast with our faith leader of all denominations of all faiths and our law enforcement to see how can we move forward in bettering this Chautauqua County so thank you.

Ben Shank, French Creek Township. I don't have anything written down so I'm going to wing it so you might have to shut me down but anyways I desire to fear God more than man and Jesus Christ has been given all authority on heaven and earth and for us to fear government or the thoughts or to fear any man over Him is to dishonor God. So I'm going to stand up like Lord I just desire to honor you with whatever comes out of my mouth and that I think is the right (*inaudible*) for each and every one of us. Our founding fathers knew in standing up against a (*inaudible*) king that they were putting their lives on the line and those men knew they established this government that we are privileged to have to be a part of and they knew that it was vital in order to maintain the freedom that we have that the scripture be taught to every man in (*inaudible*) our government felt for some reason that it was not important and that we should take prayer and the scripture out of our schools. So now today, we – and this is the thing, you are probably going to have to shut me down at 3 minutes but America is an experiment, a Christian nation and what we can do to promote Jesus Christ and when we have no knowledge of who Jesus Christ is – I guess what I'm trying to say is this experiment, we have as Christians have done many things wrong. We have studied the scriptures and got God wrong and we suffer for it and so then we have learned many things throughout our history to get them correct but now we have stripped our schools and the education of our children of the scriptures and the need for Jesus Christ. Here I am God bless this nation and help us to honor you. Help us to know the scriptures that honor you in Jesus name.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Anyone else wishing to address the second privilege of the floor? Seeing no one, there is only one thing left on our agenda this evening and I will ask the clerk to read that please.

Clerk Lee: Consideration of a Motion to enter into executive session, upon an affirmative vote of the majority, pursuant to Section 105(e) of the Open Meetings law to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law.

Chairman Chagnon: So is there anyone wishing to make that motion?

7:38 p.m.

*MOVED by Legislator Harmon, SECONDED by Legislator Bankoski to enter into executive session – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to enter into executive session*

Chairman Chagnon: For the benefit of the audience, we will be adjourning from this room to a separate room to conduct our executive session. When we reconvene back in this room, there is no further business that is anticipated so after the executive session we'll come back here and adjourn the Legislature meeting, thank you.

7:58 p.m.

*MOVED by Legislator Harmon, SECONDED by Legislator Muldowney to exit executive session – UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to exit executive session*

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

*Unanimously Carried (8:00 p.m.)*

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