

Regular Meeting  
Chautauqua County Legislature  
Wednesday, February 26, 2020 6:30 p.m.  
Mayville, N.Y. 14757

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

Clerk Tampio called the roll and announced a quorum present. (Absent: Gould, Ward)

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Harmon and duly carried the minutes were approved. (1/22/20)

1<sup>st</sup> Privilege of the Floor

My name is Richard Kimball and I live at 5595 Centralia Hartfield road, Dewittville. I appreciate this opportunity to address the legislative body. I am here to support the passage of the proclamation declaring March as Agricultural Month.

My family and I have a dairy farm in Dewittville. I am also the president of Chautauqua County Farm Bureau and Western NY director to the New York State Farm Bureau Board. Farm Bureau is the largest grass root advocacy organization for agriculture in New York.

According the 2017 ag consensus there are 1,128 farms in Chautauqua County and they generate over \$160 million in revenue. Our county farm bureau board is made up of 9 members and we have a leadership development program for young farmers and ranchers. To be a young farmer you have to be 35 years or younger. Our vice president is Evan Schiedel from Ripley grapes and market garden. Our secretary is Christina Dean from Forestville Dairy. Our treasurer is Kaitlyn Bentley Waylen from Peterson Farms Jamestown Market Garden – beef and goats. Our pro ed person is Virginia Carlberg from Frewsburg dairy and farm stand and Glen Moss Jr. a dairy farmer from Conewango Valley. The reason I mention this is they all qualify as young farmers. I always hate to stand up here as the face of Chautauqua County Farm Bureau- you get the wrong idea- I'm just a mentor.

I would like to thank this body for their support of Cornell Cooperative Extension and especially the new regional ag teams. I would also like to thank Legislator Mark Odell for bringing this forward and the support of Chairman Chagnon and John Hemmer and Dan Pavlock. We really appreciate your support for agriculture.

Finally, being as agriculture is the largest economic driver in the county I urge you to approve this proclamation. Thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Anyone else wishing to address the first privilege of the floor?

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**VETO MESSAGES FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE WENDEL  
NO VETOES FROM 01/22/20**

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**PROCLAMATION:**

**BEMUS POINT VOLUNTEER  
FIRE COMPANY**

**by  
Chairman Pierre E. Chagnon**

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**PRESENTATION:**

**BRENDA KATTA  
NYS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATOR  
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**by  
Sheriff Quattrone**

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**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Letters (8) – County Executive Wendel – Appointments To Various Boards
  2. Letters (2) – County Executive Wendel – Appointments To Various Boards
  3. Letter – District Attorney – Oath of Office
  4. Letter – NYS Department of State – Ack. Receipt of LL 1-20
  5. Letter – NYS DEC – Brownfield Cleanup Program Application
  6. Letter – NYS Board of Elections – Early Voting Sites for 2020 Presidential Primary
  7. Report – NYS Small Business Development Center - Chautauqua County Quarterly Report
  8. Report – NYS Small Business Development Center - Chautauqua County Business Permit Center Quarterly Report
  9. Report – NYS Small Business Development Center - Chautauqua County Business Permit Center Annual Report
  10. Report – NYS Small Business Development Center - Chautauqua County Annual Report
  11. Report – Cornell Cooperative Extension – 2019 Annual Report
  12. Letter/Invitation – Cornell Cooperative Extension – 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Tie Affair
  13. Reports (2) – Fn. Director Crow – Investment Reports – November 2019 and December 2019
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**RESOLUTIONS:**

Legislator Bankoski: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion to block resolutions 35-20 through 44-20.

Legislator Vanstrom: I'll second that motion.

Chairman Chagnon: O.K., we have a motion by Legislator Bankoski and a second by Legislator Vanstrom to block those resolutions. All those in favor please say aye? Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried to block resolutions 35-20 through 44-20*

**RES. NO. 35-20 Confirm Re-Appointment - Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 36-20 Confirm Appointment and Re-Appointments – Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency**, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 37-20 Confirm Appointment - Chautauqua County Food Policy Council**, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 38-20 Confirm Re-Appointments - Chautauqua County Sports Fishery Advisory Board**, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 39-20 Confirm Re-Appointments - Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District Board**, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 40-20 Confirm Appointment and Re-Appointment – Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board**, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 41-20 Confirm Re-Appointment and Appointment- Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau Board of Directors**, by Planning & Economic Development Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 42-20 Confirm Re-Appointments - Chautauqua County Community Services Board**, by Human Services Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 43-20 Confirm Re-Appointments – STOP DWI Advisory Board**, by Public Safety Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 44-20 Confirm Re- Appointments - Chautauqua County Airport Commission**, by Public Facilities Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 45-20 Confirming Lateral Restrictions for North Chautauqua County Water District**, by Public Facilities Committee – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 46-20 Request for Immediate Funding for Repair of Courthouse Elevator**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 47-20 Close DPF-CARTS (Dunkirk) Petty Cash Fund**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 48-20 CARTS – Section 5311 Consolidating Operating and Capital Grant Application Request**, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 49-20 Amend Capital Project Accounts due to Fleet Management Services, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 50-20 Authorize Director of Finance to Increase Appropriations for PIN 5758.45 County Bridge 827 Replacement over Prendergast Creek in the Town of North Harmony, by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 51-20 Authorize Agreement with New York State for the Petroleum Product Quality Program, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 52-20 Authorize Lease Agreement with the City of Dunkirk for Use of Office Space by the Chautauqua County Office of the Public Defender, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 53-20 Authorize Acceptance of the Crimes Against Revenue Program (“CARP”) Grant Funds for 2020, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 54-20 Fiscal Year 2019 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Program, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 55-20 Reimbursement for Jamestown Fire and Chemical Spill, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 56-20 Authorize Acceptance of Funding from the Health Foundation of Western & Central New York, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 57-20 Establish Capital Project for Welch Trail Recreation Area, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 58-20 Accept NYS Funding for 2020 Census Effort, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 59-20 Amend 2019 Budget Appropriations and Revenues – Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS), by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees**

Legislator Nazzaro: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion to table resolution 59-20 because the transfer from the D fund to the A fund should not be made at this time. Thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: O.K., I have a motion to table, do I have a second?

Legislator Vanstrom: I'll second.

Chairman Chagnon: O.K., I have a motion and a second. Any discussion on the motion to table? Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye? Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried to Table*

Legislator Nazzaro: I would like a motion to block resolution 60-20 through 80-20. All of these have to do with 2019 budget year end reconciliations and every one of these was either reviewed in the home committee and they were also reviewed in detail in the Audit & Control meeting and all of these adjustments are appropriate and recommended.

Chairman Chagnon: O.K., do I have a second?

Legislator Vanstrom: Second.

Chairman Chagnon: O.K., so we have a motion to block resolutions 60-20 through 80-20. Is there any discussion on that motion to block? All those in favor? Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried to Block*

**RES. NO. 60-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Public Facilities,** by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 61-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Public Facilities, Road Machinery Division,** by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 62-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Public Facilities Administration, Maintenance of Roads and Snow Removal,** by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 63-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Landfill – Environment,** by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 64-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer Districts (SCCLSD),** by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 65-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District,** by Public Facilities and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 66-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliation – County Clerk,** by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – **UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 67-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Board of Elections, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 68-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Liability Insurance Accounts, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 69-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Health Insurance Fund, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 70-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Workers Compensation Fund, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 71-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Finance, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 72-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Finance, Debt Service, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 73-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Human Resources, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 74-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Information Technology Services, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 75-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations: Unified Court Costs – Indigent Services – Child Custody and Law Department, by Administrative Services, Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 76-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Office of the Sheriff, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 77-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Emergency Services, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 78-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Unified Court Costs, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 79-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Conflict Administration, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 80-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliation – Probation, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

Legislator Odell: Thank you very much. I just have a brief comments on 79-20. It's worth noting that while \$180,000 adjustment is significant, it's a significant improvement over the prior year budget year adjustment that was at \$290,000, so we're trending in the correct way and the addition of our conflict resolution coordinator should continue that trend going forward. Thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: Other questions or comments on the blocked resolutions? All in favor of the blocked resolutions 60-20 through 80-20 please say aye. Opposed?

**RES. NO. 81-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Office for Aging Services, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees**

Legislator Nazzaro: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a motion to amend. There is a slight revision to the amounts. In the increase appropriation account – contractual office of the aging- the amount should be \$38,992 as opposed to \$38,986. The decrease appropriation accounts- personal services that amount should also be \$38,992.

Chairman Chagnon: We have a motion to amend. Do we have a second?

Legislator Vanstrom: Second.

Chairman Chagnon: Any discussion or comments on the motion to amend? All those in favor of the amendment? Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried to Amend*

Chairman Chagnon: Now on to discussion of the amended resolution. Any questions, comments or discussion on that? All those in favor? Opposed?

**RES. NO. 81-20 – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**RES. NO. 82-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Mental Hygiene, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 83-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Veterans Service Agency, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 84-20 Amend 2019 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Health and Human Services, by Human Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 85-20 Amend 2020 Adopted Budget due to Change in Accounting for License Fees, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 86-20 Amend 2020 Adopted Budget for State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Award, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 87-20 Amend 2020 Adopted Budget for County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Planning Grant from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 88-20 Adjust the Division of Planning and Community Development’s 2019 and 2020 Budgets for the Barcelona to Chautauqua Institution (B2CI) Trail Easement Grant, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 89-20 Adjust the Division of Planning and Community Development’s 2019 and 2020 Budgets for Soil & Water for Water Quality Improvement Projects, by Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 90-20 Amend 2019 & 2020 Budgets for Grant Equipment Revenue – Emergency Services, by Public Safety and Audit & Control Committees – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 91-20 Close Capital Projects, by Audit & Control Committee – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 92-20 Authorize Sale of Tax Foreclosure Property to Home Leasing LLC, by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – R/C Vote: 17 Yes; 2 Absent – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 93-20 Authorize Transfer of Tax Foreclosure Properties to the Village of Brocton and Chautauqua County Land Bank Corporation (CCLBC), by Administrative Services and Audit & Control Committees – R/C Vote: 17 Yes; 2 Absent – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

**RES. NO. 94-20 Authorize Execution of Attestation for 2.00% Funding Increase to Support Annual Salary Related Fringe Benefit Costs of Direct Care Staff, Direct Support Professionals, and Clinical Staff at Not-for-Profit Providers through the Department of Mental Hygiene OASAS Programs – UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**



**MOTIONS:****A. Proclaiming March 2020 as Agriculture Month in Chautauqua County**

Legislator Rankin: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Having been involved with several of these groups it's very near and dear to my heart. I want to thank the legislators that sponsored this motion Richard Kimball and all the members of the Farm Bureau for all the hard work they do to help support, promote and educate people about agriculture and Emily Reynolds and all the staff at Cornell Cooperative, Future Farmers of America and all their supporters, all the farmers and everyone who supports agriculture in Chautauqua County. We should do whatever we can to support and promote agriculture given how important it is in Chautauqua County and throughout the state. I'm happy to support this motion. Thank you.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Any other comments? All those in favor? Opposed?

**UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Chagnon: Are there any announcements for the good of the order?

Legislator Starks: On March 6<sup>th</sup>- Friday evening the Village of Fredonia will host probably not the final rally regarding the Small Business Revolution and the Hulu series that will be filmed in Fredonia. Seven businesses were chosen from over 100 that applied for the opportunity to work with the Deluxe Corporation to have some marketing expertise and some renovations put their way and they will film their next series in Fredonia around these seven businesses. It's a great opportunity, not only for the Village, but the County as a whole. All the materials and things that they find that they may need they will look local first.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Any other announcements?

Legislator Odell: This is not so much an announcement, but rather a thank you as we have a few of the department heads here. This goes back to resolution 93-20 regarding the transfer of the blight in Brocton to the land bank that's been going on well over a decade in my jurisdiction and been kicked around quite a bit and I'd like to publically thank Director Geise and Mr. Bentley who are both here tonight and were instrumental in bringing this to fruition and looking for amicable ways to treat this. Now that we've done it this way- through the land bank we were able to mitigate the blight and ultimately strengthen the neighborhood. So, thank you very much.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you.

Legislator Rankin: I just want to invite everyone to Jamestown on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> for St. Patrick's Day at 11 o'clock. You get the opportunity to see the river turn a very strange

green color, but it's beautiful and a lot of fun and then to enjoy all the food and stores in downtown Jamestown. Please come and join us.

Chairman Chagnon: Thank you. Any other announcements? Hearing none, we will move to the second privilege of the floor.

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Privilege of the Floor

Ms. Engstrom: My name is Karen Engstrom from Mayville, New York. I am representing a number of groups of concerned citizens from Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Niagara, Erie and Alleghany counties. On February 20<sup>th</sup> Governor Cuomo issued a budget amendment regarding energy projects in the state. His 31 page amendment makes industrial wind and solar projects subject to a dramatically new permitting and construction process. This plan wipes out our traditional article 10 process for energy projects. As Cuomo stated, "I'm going to flip the process and make it faster." Cuomo's budget amendment fast-tracks energy projects and calls for measures that will bypass public participation in the energy siting process. Existing projects are already having negative economic effects, negative environmental effects, and negative human health effects because of the impacts of industrial size 600 foot wind turbines. Home rule and zoning by local governments was eroded by the article 10 process and this siting process had dismantled many safeguards, but this new process that he is advocating will further fast-track renewables. Electricity use in New York State is equivalent to many small countries and it has been estimated that it will take 150 thousand 600 foot turbines to accommodate the needed three thousand- seven hundred billion btu's of energy consumed by this state. Cuomo is using the budget process to enact what should be done through legislation. Under this plan the state will dictate local pilots. This plan creates a default that allows all projects be automatically approved after a year if the project has not completed. So, if they don't approve it within a year it's automatically approved and that goes for solar and wind. This has 30 days to get through and it was introduced on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Any objections will be deemed "unreasonably burdensome." There are no appropriate safeguards under this plan and no local input. No moratoriums will be allowed. The blue pages on your desk give you a summary of this. It was drawn up by a number of people in Cattaraugus County and further east in Rochester and Ithaca. I will put it into email so you can access the budget as the links are there. The Erie citizens group at the last minute said to please include our resolution for lake wind turbines, which is kind of a separate thing because there won't be any oversight by town boards. Right now we have home rule and home rule is in jeopardy because of this amendment. I think that's why we'll see some opposition to it, but I just thought I'd bring it to your attention. The New York Organization- the Association of Towns on February 25<sup>th</sup> issued a statement opposing Cuomo's budget amendment and calling for Cuomo to withdraw the amendment. Niagara County Legislature is forming a committee- a mixture of town and county officials to hear the ideas and concerns of those who might be impacted by these industrial energy projects. We are requesting that you consider supporting a (*inaudible*) for this amendment to be withdrawn and to follow Niagara County's example- there's an article attached that was in the newspaper that says that they have called together groups of people to discuss this very issue, which has been imposed arbitrarily without legislation. Finally, even in the regular budget- the regular budget under transportation on page 31- part HH authorizes this

new agency- the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to finance portions of this energy research by assessing the gas and electric corporations in our state. These handicaps to the reliable, affordable power that we have already in this state further make our grid unreliable and in danger. Just two days ago another gas line was killed. It was one coming up from Pennsylvania – natural gas line- because of the regulations and it's just one more step in the handicapping of our communities when it comes to energy. The amendment is a sweeping amendment in its scope and it changes all aspects of power plant citing including permitting and approval, land acquisition, environmental review, the creation of payment in lieu of taxes and host community benefit agreements. This amendment preempts all local zoning authority. Do you have any questions? Thank you very much.

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

My name is Louis Pelletter I'm the deputy supervisor for the Town of Hanover and the Silver Creek Village historian. I was a police officer for 33 years with my last 13 being Chief of Police. I'm here to ask you to get involved with the closing of the Lakeshore hospital campus in Irving and also they have a brand new building in Forestville. As you may know, Lakeshore closed January and February. It was a full service hospital and employed over 200 people and you might also know that we lost around 250 people when Petri's closed on the buyout of Carriage House with ConAgra. So, we're looking at the town of Hanover losing 450 jobs right up front. They built this brand new building in Forestville. It's probably a year old- multi million dollars and vacant. They put millions in the Lakeshore ER. Senator Borrello was there when they dedicated the new chemical dependency unit along with the mental health unit. We had this full service hospital – millions of tax payer dollars was put into this campus. What I'm asking for, whether it's the IDA, the Land Bank, any committee that you have to get personally involved with this because I feel if you put in millions of dollars in a building, you build a brand new building, you dedicate a new chemical dependency unit and you walk away from it within 30 days- one day you get up and you say we're closing. You take these 200 people- the village board didn't know, town board didn't know and I'm sure no one else knew. It was just closed. Millions of dollars.

Now, to give you a little background Lakeshore was a hundred year effort on our community's part from the old house hospitals that we had. Basically we had 10 doctors and they put in \$55,000 each as seed money and then the community, which would be all our tri-county community, they took a loan out for \$850,000- 1963 money- no government funding; it was all loans and they paid it back. Now, I tell people that these are our buildings and apparently they got away from us, but they are our buildings. They were put there for a purpose. We had the house hospital for 100 years. This community got together to do this- to have a place to go in the north county area.

Now, you might have read in the Observer on December 5<sup>th</sup>- Bob Sutehall who was one of our early people on the board for Lakeshore back when it was a community hospital and he said it was managed by local people and not by our so-called experts and it was prospering because it started out as a very small hospital and they added a nursing home, health related facility and all the other items I mentioned.

So, I asked for a meeting with their board and I had Mayor Hornburg from Silver Creek and Councilman Wayne Ashley from the town to meet and we met for an hour and a half and we

left with more questions than we had answers. One of the things that we had heard was that we can't have this hospital because there's too much debt. People today are using outpatient services instead of the hospital, that we're a poverty area, and the state reimbursements aren't enough to keep you going. So, I asked them a question- in the paper they said you're \$20 million in debt and I said to them if Lakeshore is \$7 million in debt then that puts Brooks at \$13 million in debt, so are you going to close that hospital and not have any hospital in the north county area? Their response was that they are only \$15 million in debt and that was the end of that. The funny thing was they told me that the state health department thought that they were doing an excellent job managing with all the problems that our area produces and I told them that they're \$20 million in the ditch- how could they say you're doing a good job? I met with Senator Borrello-

Chairman Chagnon: Sir, your five minutes has been exceeded. We appreciate your comments, but we'd like to keep it moving along.

Mr. Pelletter: O.K. We went to the state mental health advisory board. They recommended that it stays open. Instead, they closed it. One of the things that they said is it had inadequate planning and evaluations to make an acceptable plan. So, in addition to closing in 30 days instead of giving 90 days' notice we're going to have a volunteer problem because now our turnaround time is going to be 5-6 hours. I don't know who we're going to get to volunteer for that amount of time especially when we have multiple calls.

So, what I'm asking you to do is if we could be proactive instead of reactive. The last thing I wanted to mention to you is that I went and checked looking for an old water bill that they might have not paid and I found a large amount of money that was paid to our Hanover district. I called county tax and they said not only are those bills there even though they emerged from bankruptcy, but now they're being assessed. If we don't do anything these buildings are going to end up in public charge anyways and I'll let it go at that. Thank you.

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

Sheriff Quattrone: Thank you. I just wanted to thank the Legislature for proclaiming March as Agriculture month. It made me think about that for the last thirty plus years I've had the honor and privilege to visit the 4-H barns at the fair and I would encourage you all to do that. When I see the great work that 4-H does with the kids and the youth in our community- I've said before that I've never had a problem with the fair with the 4-H kids other than some pranks, but those are good pranks. The kids each year teach me something new about agriculture. I remember a couple years ago I asked a young girl to teach me about something in the barn and she said that she taught me that last year, so I guess I'm not a good learner, but I do appreciate the 4-H and all that you do in our community.

The second thing is that I sent you all an email yesterday or the day before and I just wanted to extend an invite to everyone to come tour the jail and our dispatch center. I often say our dispatch center is the first point of the criminal justice system and the jail is often the last point or we hope it's the last point and we hope the people will learn from that. Our correction officers have a difficult job that I think most people don't always realize how hard it is. It would mean a lot if we could get our county leaders to come and visit and see what they're doing. Anytime that you want to come we can make the arrangement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Bentley: I'm Brad Bentley, the Director of Public Facilities. I just wanted to do a public service announcement that winter is not over. We will be reminded of that over the next few days. I take the road safety very seriously and I would encourage all of you to remind everyone to drive safely over the last couple of days. We've had some very good weather recently and there's a tendency for the public to forget how to drive with winter weather, so I just encourage everybody- I know that the next few days are going to be difficult. We're taking this very seriously. The DPF is ready as we always are to take care of the roads, but we do want the public to drive safely and slowly. If you don't have to go out please don't. Definitely leave room around our plows. They have a very difficult job seeing in this weather. The last thing I want to do is go out to another accident scene. So, I do encourage you and I know the Sheriff (*inaudible*) I do encourage the safety for the rest of the year. Thanks.

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

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Hemmer and duly carried the meeting was adjourned. (7:28 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,  
Olivia L. Ames, Deputy Clerk/Secretary to the Legislature