

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATURE
OF THE
COUNTY OF NIAGARA
STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICIAL RECORD

Lockport, New York
January 2, 2024

The Legislature of the County of Niagara, State of New York, convened in annual session in the Legislature Chambers, Courthouse, Lockport, New York on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year.

County Clerk Joseph Jastrzemski, acting as Chairman pro temp, called the Legislature meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and gave the invocation.

On roll call the following Legislators were present from the several legislative districts:

First	Irene M. Myers
Second	Rebecca J. Wydysch
Third	Christopher J. McKimmie
Fourth	Jeffery Elder
Fifth	Christopher A. Robins
Sixth	Christopher Voccio
Seventh	Jesse P. Gooch
Eighth	Richard L. Andres Jr.
Ninth	Randy R. Bradt
Tenth	David E. Godfrey
Eleventh	Anthony J. Nemi
Twelfth	Carla L. Speranza
Thirteenth	Richard E. Abbott
Fourteenth	Shawn A. Foti
Fifteenth	Michael A. Hill
Absent:	

County Clerk Jastrzemski administered the oath of office to the 2024 Niagara County Legislators.

The Chairman pro temp Joseph Jastrzemski asked for nominations for temporary Chairman.

Moved by Andres, seconded by Godfrey, that Legislator Nemi be nominated for temporary Chairman.

Moved by Andres, seconded by Godfrey, that the nominations be closed.

Carried.

Chairman pro temp Jastrzemski declared Legislator Nemi as the Temporary Chairman.

Temporary Chairman asked for nominations for permanent Chairman.

Moved by Nemi, seconded by Bradt, that Legislator Wydysh be nominated for permanent Chairman.

Moved by Nemi, seconded by Bradt, that the nominations be closed.

Carried.

Temporary Chairman Nemi declared Legislator Wydysh as the Chairman.

Chairman Wydysh took a few minutes to say some remarks and thanked her fellow Legislators for their vote of confidence in her.

Moved by Wydysh, seconded by Bradt, to designate Legislator Nemi to serve as Vice Chairman.

Moved by Wydysh, seconded by Bradt, that nominations be closed.

Carried.

Chairman Wydysh designated Legislator Nemi to serve as Vice-Chairman.

Moved by Hill, seconded by Myers, to appoint Alysa T. Tomasino as the Clerk of the Legislature.

Moved by Hill, seconded by Myers, to close nominations.

Carried.

Alysa T. Tomasino was declared the Clerk of the Legislature.

Moved by Andres, seconded by Abbott, to nominate Claude A. Joerg as the County Attorney.

Moved by Andres, seconded by Abbott, to close the nominations.

Carried.

Claude A. Joerg was declared the County Attorney.

Moved by Godfrey, seconded by McKimmie, to nominate Nicholas B. Robinson as the Public Defender.

Moved by Godfrey, second by McKimmie, to close the nominations.

Carried.

Nicholas B. Robinson was declared the Public Defender.

Legislator Bradt announced that Legislator Bradt would serve as Majority Leader, Legislator Hill as First Deputy and Legislator Godfrey as Second Deputy Majority Leader.

Legislator Robins announced that Legislator Robins would serve as Minority Leader, Legislator Elder as First Deputy and Legislator Speranza as Second Deputy Minority Leader.

Moved by Voccio, seconded by Elder, that the Board will meet on the following dates, or at the call of the Clerk of the Legislature.

Carried.

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE 2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

6:00 P.M.

January

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 (Organizational Mtg.)

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

February

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

March

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

April

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

May

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

June

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Moved by Chairman Wydysh, seconded by Robins, that Vice Chairman Nemi is designated to serve on the Niagara County Jury Board.

Carried.

Moved by Gooch, seconded by Myers, to appoint Gary Billingsley as the Attorney for the Aging.

Carried.

Moved by Bradt seconded by Robins, to approve the Standing Committee structure as presented.

Carried.

NIAGARA COUNTY 2024 STANDING COMMITTEES

**REBECCA J. WYDYSH, CHAIRMAN
ANTHONY J. NEMI, VICE CHAIRMAN
RANDY R. BRADT, MAJORITY LEADER
CHRISTOPHER ROBINS, MINORITY LEADER**

ADMINISTRATION

(County Manager, County Attorney, Management & Budget, Treasurer, Audit, Real Property, Legislature, Printing/Mailing, Human Resources, Civil Service, Risk Management, Board of Elections)

GODFREY, NEMI, BRADT, ELDER, MYERS, ROBINS, VOCCIO

Co. Attorney - C. Joerg, K. Alexander
Secretary- Heather Soles, 439-7005

COMMUNITY SERVICES

(Social Services, Employment & Training, Youth Bureau, Office for the Aging, Public Health, Mental Health, NCCC, County Clerk/DMV, Historian, Veterans Services)

GOOCH, VOCCIO, BRADT, GODFREY, NEMI, ROBINS, SPERANZA

Co. Attorney – G. Lisowski

Secretary – Helen Dennis, 278-8238

COMMUNITY SAFETY & SECURITY

(Sheriff, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, Fire Coordinator/Emergency Services, Coroners, Conflicts and Assigned Council)

HILL, GODFREY, ABBOTT, BRADT, ELDER, McKIMMIE, ROBINS

Co. Attorney – B. Marble, K. Alexander

Secretary – Laura Moll, 438-3370

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(Economic Development, Niagara Co. Industrial Development Agency)

ANDRES, MYERS, BRADT, ELDER, GODFREY, McKIMMIE, SPERANZA

Co. Attorney – T. Burgasser

Secretary-Cathie Synor, 278-8750

GREENWAY (ad hoc committee-under Economic Development)

ANDRES, NEMI, BRADT, ELDER, FOTI

INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES

(Public Works, Parks/Golf Course, Refuse Disposal District, Sewer District, Water District, Weights & Measures, Information Technology, Buildings & Grounds)

FOTI, MYERS, ABBOTT, BRADT, HILL, ROBINS, SPERANZA

Co. Attorney – T. Burgasser (Parks/Golf Course), D. Koplas

Secretary- Dan Quinn, 439-7244

REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT (ad hoc committee-under Infrastructure & Facilities)

FOTI, BRADT, ABBOTT, ELDER, GOOCH, HILL, MYERS, NEMI, ROBINS, WYDYSH

Co. Attorney – G. Lisowski

Moved by Foti, seconded by Speranza, that the two Niagara County newspapers, namely: The Niagara Gazette and the Lockport Union Sun & Journal are designated as the official newspapers.

Carried.

Resolution No. CW-001-24

From: Committee of the Whole.

Dated: January 2, 2024.

**A LOCAL LAW INCREASING THE SALARY OF NIAGARA COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Whole present in writing the following proposed Local Law: of the County of Niagara, New York for the year 2024 increasing the salary of the Niagara County Board of Elections Commissioners, and

WHEREAS, Niagara County endeavors to set a level of compensation appropriate to the responsibilities attendant to a position and in-line with the compensation levels set in counties with similar characteristics, and

WHEREAS, such policy is critical to attracting and retaining the most highly-qualified individuals available for each position, and necessitates ongoing review of compensation set for county employees as all levels, and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of this Legislature that the Niagara County Board of Elections Commissioners must be correctly compensated, and

WHEREAS, the current salary of the Niagara County Board of Elections Commissioners is currently set at \$94,300 for the year 2024 with annual increases in 2025 and 2026, and

Be enacted by the County Legislature of the County of Niagara, as follows:

1. The salary of the Niagara County Board of Elections Commissioners shall be increased from \$94,300 for year 2024 to \$105,000 for year 2024, with a 3% annual increase in years 2025 and 2026. Such salary increases shall become effective upon enactment.

2. This Local Law shall become effective in accordance with the statutes of the State of New York.

RESOLVED, that the Niagara County Legislature shall conduct a public hearing upon said proposed Local law at the Legislative Chambers, Courthouse, Lockport, New York on the 23rd day of January, 2024 at 5:50 p.m., and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature, at least six (6) days in advance of such hearing, shall post a notice upon the bulletin boards in the Courthouse in Lockport, the Civic Building in Niagara Falls shall publish such notice once in the Union Sun & Journal, and the Niagara Gazette; such notice shall contain the title of the Local Law and an abstract of the text to be prepared by the Clerk of the Legislature, with the assistance of the County Attorney's Office

RESOLVED, that this Local Law shall become effective in accordance with the statutes of the State of New York.

Moved by Bradt, seconded by Robins.

Adopted. 15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent.

APPOINTMENTS:

	<u>Appt.</u>	<u>Expires</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD:</u>		
David E. Godfrey, Niagara County Legislator	01/02/24	12/31/25
James Bittner 7171 East Lake Rd., Appleton NY 14008	01/02/24	12/31/27

BOARD OF ETHICS:

James Spanbauer 145 S 7 th St., Lewiston, 14092	01/02/24	12/31/26
Peter Grinnell 565 Chestnut St., North Tonawanda 14120	01/02/24	12/31/26
Mary Brennan-Taylor 32 Cottage St., Lockport 14094	01/02/24	12/31/26

BOARD OF HEALTH:

Anthony J. Nemi, Niagara County Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION:

Jeffrey Elder, Niagara County Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

Richard E. Abbott, Niagara County Legislature 01/02/24 12/31/25

FISHERIES BOARD:

Vic Thibault 01/02/24 12/31/26

1694 Lockport-Olcott Rd., Burt 14028

Robert Cinelli 01/02/24 12/31/26

PO Box 1773, Olcott 14126

Connie Adams-Meesig 01/02/24 12/31/26

704 Payne Avenue, North Tonawanda 14120

Joseph Oaks 01/02/24 12/31/26

5780 W. Main St., Olcott 14126

Capt. Michael Johannes 01/02/24 12/31/26

3313 Ridge Rd., Ransomville 14131

GREATER BUFFALO NIAGARA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (GBNRTC):

Rebecca J. Wydysh, Chairman 01/02/24 12/31/24

Niagara County Legislature

Planning & Coordinating Committee

1. Garret Meal, Commissioner of Public Works 01/02/24 12/31/24

2. Norman D. Allen, PE, Deputy Commissioner of 01/02/24 12/31/24

Public Works-Engineering (Alternate)

3. Michael Casale, Commissioner (Alternate) 01/02/24 12/31/24

Economic Development Department

INTER-COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF WNY:

Rebecca J. Wydysh, Chairman Niagara County Legislature 01/02/24 12/31/24

Anthony J. Nemi, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/24

Alysa T. Tomasino, Clerk 01/02/24 12/31/24

David E. Godfrey, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/24

LAW LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Rebecca J. Wydysh, Chairman 01/02/24 10/01/25

Niagara County Legislature

NIMAC:

David E. Godfrey, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

NIAGARA ORLEANS REGIONAL ALLIANCE (NORA):

David E. Godfrey, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

Michael A. Hill, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

Rebecca J. Wydysh, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

Shawn A. Foti, Legislator 01/02/24 12/31/25

PLANNING BOARD:

Norman R. Machelor 210 North 5 th Street, Lewiston 14092	01/02/24	12/31/26
Mary Jo Tamburlin 226 Falconer St., North Tonawanda 14120	01/02/24	12/31/26
William Agronin 11 Berkley Dr., Lockport 14094	01/02/24	12/31/26
Walter D. Garrow 7125 Lakeside Drive, Niagara Falls 14304	01/02/24	12/31/26

REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD:

Michael Hill - Towns of Royalton & Hartland	01/02/24	12/31/25
Rebecca J. Wydysh – Town of Lewiston	01/02/24	12/31/25
Irene M. Myers - Town of Porter	01/02/24	12/31/25
Richard E. Abbott– City of Lockport	01/02/24	12/31/25
Shawn A. Foti - Town of Somerset	01/02/24	12/31/25
Anthony Nemi – City of Lockport, Town of Lockport	01/02/24	12/31/25
Jeffery Elder– City of Niagara Falls	01/02/24	12/31/25
Christopher A. Robins – City of Niagara Falls	01/02/24	12/31/25
Randy Bradt - City of North Tonawanda	01/02/24	12/31/25
Jesse P. Gooch – Town of Wheatfield, City of North Tonawanda	01/02/24	12/31/25
Garret Meal, Comm. of Public Works – Ex-officio		

SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1 ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD:

Sylvia Virtuoso, Supervisor, Town of Niagara 7105 Lockport Rd., Niagara Falls 14305	01/02/24	Term of office
Jon T. MacSwan, Supervisor, Town of Cambria 4160 Upper Mountain Rd., Sanborn 14132	01/02/24	Term of office

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT:

Scott White (Grange) 8596 Mountain Road, Gasport 14067	01/02/24	12/31/26
Shawn A. Foti, Legislator	01/02/24	12/31/24
Carla L. Speranza, Legislator	01/02/24	12/31/24

TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD :

Robert Frank, Lt. No. Tonawanda Police 216 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda 14120	01/02/24	12/31/26
Corey Harmon, Zone Sgt., NYS Police 6568 Dysinger Rd., Lockport 14094	01/02/24	12/31/26
David E. Godfrey, Niagara County Legislature 4821 Lake Road, Burt 14028	01/02/24	12/31/26
Michael Filicetti, Sheriff 5526 Niagara St. Ext., Lockport 14094	01/02/24	12/31/26
Christopher Rola, NYS Parks Police 570 Parks Whirlpool St., Niagara Falls 14301	01/02/24	12/31/26
Angela Munn, Capt. Police Dept., 1925 Main St., Niagara Falls 14305	01/02/24	12/31/26
Steven Abbott, Chief, Lockport Police Dept Police Headquarters, Municipal Bldg., Lockport 14094	01/02/24	12/31/26

Chief Keith Glass, No. Tonawanda Police Dept. 216 Payne Ave, North Tonawanda 14120	01/02/24	12/31/26
Garret Meal, Commissioner Public Works	01/02/24	12/31/26
Anthony Nemi, Vice Chr., Administration Comm.	01/02/24	12/31/26
Thomas Huff, Capt., Stop DWI Coordinator 5526 Niagara St. Ext., Lockport 14094	01/02/24	12/31/26

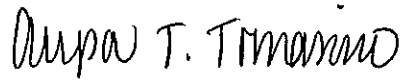
WATER DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD:

Margaret M. Zaepfel, Supervisor, Town of Hartland 8942 Ridge Rd., Gasport 14067	01/02/24	Term of Office
Jeff Brown, Supervisor, Town of Royalton 5316 Royalton Center Rd., Middleport 14105	01/02/24	Term of Office
Jon T. MacSwan, Supervisor, Town of Cambria 4160 Upper Mountain Rd., Sanborn 14132	01/02/24	Term of Office
Sylvia Virtuoso, Supervisor, Town of Niagara 7105 Lockport Rd., Niagara Falls 14305	01/02/24	Term of Office

Moved by Bradt, seconded by Robins.
Approved.

Moved by Myers, seconded by Elder, that the Board adjourn.
Carried.

The Chairman declared the Board adjourned at 6:16 p.m., subject to the call of the Clerk.


Alysa T. Tomasino, Clerk