

MINUTES
Herkimer County Legislature
First Quarter – Second Day
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
7:00 p.m.

The Regular Session of the Herkimer County Legislature was called to order by Chairman Peter J. Campione at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Campione called on Legislator Gene Wedemeyer, Jr., to lead the Legislature in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Campione called for a moment of silence in recognition of all veterans, past and present.

Roll Call: Quorum present, the following answering the roll:

Present: Malta, Gaworecki, Schrader, Wedemeyer, Brewer, Bennett, Keeler, Brezinski, Bick, Swartz, Lucenti, Ackerman, Donley, Campione, Wares, Weakley (16).

Absent: Haehl (1).

Pursuant to Rule 8 of the Rules of the County Legislature, Chairman Campione asked if there were any objections or corrections to the minutes of January 5, 2026. There were none, and the Chairman ordered them approved.

Pursuant to Rule 11, Chairman Campione opened the floor for public comment. There were no appearances.

Chairman Campione stated that the communications received by the Legislature and the Committees to which they were referred were as listed on the agenda, and asked if any member of the Legislature requested mention of any particular communication. Mr. Malta requested Communication No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, and No. 10 be read.

No. 4 – A communication was received from the Kelberman Center expressing thanks for donation in memory of Mr. Beach. Filed.

No. 5 – A communication was received from the Solid Waste Authority submitting meeting minutes and Resolution. Filed.

No. 6 – A communication was received from the IDA submitting Proposed Deviation from Uniform Tax Exemption Policy. Filed.

No. 7 – A communication was received from the County Attorney submitting Notice of Claim. Filed.

No. 8 – A communication was received from the County Attorney submitting Notice of Claim. Filed.

No. 9 – A communication was received from the County Attorney submitting Notice of Claim. Filed.

No. 10 – A communication was received from the County Attorney submitting Notice of Claim. Filed.

No. 11 – A communication was received from the County Attorney submitting Designation of Assistant County Attorney. Filed.

No. 12 – A communication was received from the Commissioners of Elections requesting to approve fee for Early Voting site. Referred to the Committee on Administration/Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 13 – A communication was received from the Underground Railroad Consortium of NYS requesting resolution for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway. Referred to the Committee on Highways.

No. 14 – A communication was received from the County Attorney requesting discussion for tax certiorari proceeding. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 15 – A communication was received from the Sheriff submitting November 2025 monthly report. Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management.

No. 16 – A communication was received from the Executive Director of the Youth Bureau submitting 2025 Annual Report. Referred to the Committee on County Planning & Development.

No. 17 – A communication was received from the Director of Probation requesting to accept grant funding and authorize Chairman to e-sign. Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 18 – A communication was received from the Executive Director of the Youth Bureau requesting to accept funding and approve contracts for the Youth Programs. Referred to the Committee on County Planning & Development and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 19 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting adoption of the County's Purchasing Policy. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 20 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting creation of project and budget amendment in connection with 2025 State Interoperable Communications Grant in Emergency Services. Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 21 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting creation of accounts and budget amendment in the Office for the Aging. Referred to the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 22 – A communication was received from the Director of the Office for the Aging requesting to amend contract. Referred to the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 23 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting to amend contract with CS Arch. Referred to the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 24 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting to amend contract with LA Group. Referred to the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 25 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting to amend contract with C&S Engineers, Inc. Referred to the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 26 – A communication was received from the Personnel Officer requesting renewal of memberships at the Youth and Family Centers of Little Falls and Mohawk for county employees. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 27 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting approval for purchase at HCCC. Referred to the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 28 – A communication was received from the Personnel Officer requesting MOA with CSEA, Local 1000. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 29 – A communication was received from the Commissioner of Social Services requesting approval to hire outside counsel. Referred to the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 30 – A communication was received from the County Attorney requesting authorization of contract for Forensic Toxicology Services. Referred to the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 31 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting appropriation of funds in connection with installation of water softener. Referred to the Committee on County Properties and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 32 – A communication was received from the Director of the Office for the Aging requesting to amend contract. Referred to the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 33 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting renewal of SecureX Modification. Referred to the Committee on Information Services and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 34 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting appropriation of funds for College Corps Program. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 35 – A communication was received from the Herkimer County Land Bank Director requesting transfer of property. Referred to the Committee on County Properties.

No. 36 – A communication was received from the County Treasurer requesting to establish a registration fee for short-term rental properties. Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 37 – A communication was received from the Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent requesting renewal of Knowbe4 software. Referred to the Committee on Information Services and the Committee on Ways & Means.

No. 38 – A communication was received from the Highway Superintendent requesting repairs to Excavator No. 8. Referred to the Committee on Highways and the Committee on Ways & Means.

Chairman Campione introduced the new Director of Information Services, Codey Blowers.

Pursuant to Rule 6, Chairman Campione then proceeded with Reports of Standing Committees. There were no reports.

On motion of Mr. Ackerman, seconded by Mr. Schrader, Resolution No. 7 – Resolution No. 10 were handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).

Consent Agenda:

- 7 CO. PLNG. & DEV.: Adopting Annual Report of Herkimer County Youth Bureau
- 8 WAYS & MEANS: Adopting policies and procedures for purchase of goods and services
- 9 NAT. RESOURCES: Appointing representatives of Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks
- 10 WAYS & MEANS: Approving county employees family memberships at The Youth & Family Center



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 7

REPORT AND RESOLUTION ADOPTING ANNUAL REPORT OF HERKIMER COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

Sponsored by: Committee on County Planning and Development

WHEREAS, your Committee on County Planning and Development, to which was referred the Annual Report of the Herkimer County Youth Bureau for the year 2025 respectfully reports that we have examined said report and recommend that it be approved, and offer the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Annual Report of the Herkimer County Youth Bureau for the year 2025 be approved and placed on file in the Office of the Herkimer County Legislature.

Dated: January 21, 2026.



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 8

REPORT AND RESOLUTION ADOPTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Sponsored by: Committee on Ways and Means

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 2, 2026 from Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised of a request to adopt the Herkimer County Purchasing Policy for 2026; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the attached Policies and Procedures for Purchase of Goods and Services be, and hereby are, adopted as the official policies of the County of Herkimer; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to each department head in the County.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

HERKIMER COUNTY
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

These procedures are adopted to assure the prudent and economical use of public money, and to facilitate the acquisition of goods and services of maximum quality at the lowest possible cost and to guard against favoritism, extravagance, fraud and corruption.

MONETARY THRESHOLDS

Purchase Contracts less than \$20,000:

\$1-\$2,000 \$1-\$5,000 Highway	At the discretion of the Purchasing Department
\$2,001-\$10,000 \$5,001-\$10,000 Highway	Documented verbal quotes from at least three separate vendors (if available) and consultation with the Purchasing Department to determine delivered or installed costs
\$10,001-\$20,000	Documented written quotes from at least three separate vendors (if available) and consultation with the Purchasing Department and appropriate Committee of the Legislature, (to include State Contract Purchases) to determine delivered or installed costs
Over \$20,000	Sealed bids in conformance with the General Municipal Law.

Public Works Contracts less than \$35,000:

\$1 - \$2,000	At the discretion of Purchasing Department
\$2,001 - \$10,000	Documented verbal quotes from at least three separate sources (if available) and consultation with the Purchasing Department.
\$10,001 - \$35,000	Documented written quotes from at least three separate sources and consultation with the Committee of the Legislature involved.
Over \$35,000	Sealed bids in conformance with the General Municipal Law.

Purchase Contracts are contracts for the purchases of services, supplies, commodities or equipment.

Public Works are defined as labor or construction costs and building service contracts. Construction and labor contracts and building service contracts in excess of \$1,500 are also subject to **NYS Prevailing Wage**.

The above policies apply also to the Highway Department except that the requirement to consult with the Purchasing Department applies only to purchases requiring the specific authorization of the Legislature.

COMPETITIVE BIDDING

All contracts for Public Works involving an expenditure of more than Thirty-five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) and all purchase contracts involving an expenditure of more than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), unless excepted by statute or an appropriate resolution of this Legislature, are subject to competitive bidding and shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder as provided by Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law.

Exceptions to Competitive Bidding:

Emergency Purchases – to qualify as an emergency the purchase must meet one of the following criteria:

- The purchase must arise from an accident or unforeseen circumstance
- The purchase must affect life, health or safety issues
- The purchase must require immediate action and justification must be provided as to why the bidding process cannot be followed.
- Emergency purchases must be approved by the Department Head, County Administrator or Purchasing/Deputy Purchasing Agent and all documentation must be submitted as soon as possible.

Surplus or Second Hand Equipment Purchases – may be purchased without a competitive bid if purchased from the Federal or State Government or any political subdivision within New York State. Purchases from private sources do not qualify.

Professional Services – Professional Services are considered to be:

- Services requiring specialized skills, licensing, training or expertise
- Services requiring professional judgement or discretion
- Services requiring a high level of creativity
- When contracts for Professional Services will be more than \$10,000 a Request for Proposals should be developed between the department head and the purchasing department to solicit the vendor with the most cost effective services.
- Contracts for Professional Services

III. AWARDING PURCHASES

A. Proper documentation is required when the quote is not awarded to the vendor

giving the lowest price. Quotes will be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive vendor providing the goods are of equal values.

- B. Use of alternative purchasing methods including NYS Contracts, Contracts of other New York State Municipalities, “Piggybacking” on other governmental contracts, federal contracts, cooperative purchasing, preferred source, sole source and emergency purchases shall be governed by the provisions of New York State General Municipal Law, Sections 103, 104 or 104-B or State Finance Law, Section 162 or other applicable provisions of law and properly documented.
- C. Best Value: The specific non-price criteria to be used for Best Value purchases must be detailed in the price solicitation and the analysis of the resulting quotes or bids using the specified criteria must be documented. The documentation should include cost benefit analysis where possible. Award for purchases can then be made to the bidder deemed to be the Best Value to the County with all of the aspects of the Purchasing Policy remaining the same, as per Herkimer County Local Law.

- IV. A. All purchases of goods or services (except transcription services, utilities, unscheduled repairs and otherwise authorized services) require a purchase order.

Contracts (not including professional services) up to \$10,000, may be signed by the department head provided all other purchasing policies, laws and resolutions of the Legislature are complied with and documented. All such contracts must be reviewed and signed off by the Purchasing Department and County Attorney for compliance prior to signing. The originating department shall retain the original fully executed contract, and a copy with the sign off sheet should be forwarded to the County Auditor

V. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROCUREMENT POLICY**

Purchases of professional services are defined as services involving specialized skill, training and expertise, and use of professional judgment or discretion. In many cases, cost is only one element to consider when awarding a professional service contract. These contracts are not required to be bid by State law, and shall be governed by the following principles and practices:

- A. Contracts shall be executed for professional services, when appropriate, to delineate the services to be rendered and the method and amount of payment.
- B. Staff who seek approval to purchase professional services must seek to generate proposals to perform these services that are as appropriate to the County’s needs and as cost-competitive as possible, by use of RFP’s or RFQ’s, etc. RFQ’s may be used prior to RFP’s or independently.
- C. The process to be followed in each new or renewal contract for professional

services shall be proposed by the departmental staff person responsible for the services to the appropriate committee of the Legislature. The Purchasing Department must be copied (except for Highway fund requests) prior to consideration and approval by the appropriate Committee. The hiring of those professionals may be authorized by the appropriate committee up to \$10,000. The full Legislature must approve professional services over \$10,000 annually or if additional funds must be appropriated (such as with grants).

- D. Where alternative quotes or proposals are obtained, awards to an entity other than the lowest proposer must be properly documented with the rationale/reason for rejection of the lowest price.
- E. For certain types of procurements of professional services, the solicitation of alternative proposals or quotations would not be in the best interest of the County, for example, highly specialized services for which the number of qualified and available professionals is limited. In those instances, the hiring of those professionals may be authorized by the appropriate committee up to \$10,000 annually. The full Legislature must approve the contract if over \$10,000 annually without alternative quotes or RFP's after presentation to the committee of the justification for such a determination with the appropriate documentation.
- F. Any and all procedures not specifically addressed in this policy shall be governed by Section 103 or 104-b of the General Municipal Law.

VI. Any purchases of goods or services from an employee of Herkimer County or an immediate family member must be approved by the appropriate committees of the Legislature in addition to all other requirements.

VII. The following employees are authorized to make general purchases for Herkimer County (The list must be updated bi-annually):

- S. Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent
- C. Vespi, Deputy Purchasing Agent
- M. Nagele, County Highway Superintendent
- S. Tyoe, Deputy County Highway Superintendent
- K. Enea, Treasurer (credit card only)



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 9

RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERCOUNTY LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ADIRONDACKS

Sponsored by: Committee on Natural Resources

WHEREAS, the Counties of Essex, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Washington, Saratoga, Clinton, Franklin, Fulton and Warren have established the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks for the purpose, among other things, of initiating and taking positions on pending legislation affecting the Adirondack area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Peter J. Campione, Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature, William Weakley, Vice-Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature, Legislator Ray Donley, Legislator Donald Haehl, Legislator Anthony J. Lucenti, and James W. Wallace, County Administrator, be and hereby are designated as representatives of the County of Herkimer on the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks during the year 2026; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks.

Dated: January 21, 2026.



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 10

RESOLUTION APPROVING COUNTY EMPLOYEES FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS AT THE YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER

Sponsored by: Committee on Ways and Means

WHEREAS, this Legislature has authorized family memberships at the Youth & Family Center (formerly known as the YMCA), at both the Little Falls and Mohawk locations; and

WHEREAS, the County will pay \$5,000 for up to 450 County employees to have family memberships and use of their facilities at the Youth & Family Center for the period of January 30, 2026 through January 29, 2027, paid out of Account A0000008.549060; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that this Legislature approves the payment of \$5,000 to the Youth & Family Center of Little Falls and Mohawk for up to 450 County employees to have family memberships and use of their facilities for the period of January 30, 2026 through January 29, 2027, paid out of Account A0000008.549060; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, the Youth & Family Center, and all other department heads.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

The Chairman continued with the Regular Agenda.

On motion of Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Ackerman, Report and Resolution No. 11 sponsored by the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management and the Committee on Ways & Means authorizing contract for Forensic Toxicology Services was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 11

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY SERVICES

**Sponsored by: Committee on Public Safety/Emergency Management
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, this Legislature approved a contract with National Medical Services (NMS) Labs to provide toxicology services, most recently by Resolution No. 429 of 2024; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 30, 2025 from Lorraine H. Lewandrowski, County Attorney, this Legislature is advised of a request to enter into a contract with NMS Labs of Horsham, Pennsylvania, to provide toxicology services effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with NMS Labs, 200 Welsh Road, Horsham, PA 19044, to provide toxicology services effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is further authorized to enter into annual renewals of said agreement, after the expiration of the current agreement, upon the same or more favorable terms and conditions; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and NMS Labs.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Malta, seconded by Mr. Lucenti, Report and Resolution No. 12 sponsored by the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management and the Committee on Ways & Means in connection with receipt of Ignition Interlock Monitoring Device Grant was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 12

REPORT AND RESOLUTION IN CONNECTION WITH RECEIPT OF IGNITION INTERLOCK MONITORING DEVICE GRANT

**Sponsored by: Committee on Public Safety/Emergency Management
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 317 adopted on December 14, 2011, and pursuant to the provisions of Leandra's Law, an Ignition Interlock Monitoring Program was established in Herkimer County through a grant received from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, with said grant being renewed by resolution each year thereafter; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 17, 2025, from Michael D. Scalise, Director of Probation, this Legislature is advised of the request for acceptance of a grant from the State Division of Criminal Justice Services, for the period from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, in the total amount of \$6,345.57; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is hereby authorized to execute by e-signature a contract with the New York State Division of Criminal Justices to receive an Ignition Interlock Device Monitoring Project Grant for the period from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, in the total amount of \$6,345.57, with said contract to be subject to the approval of the Herkimer County Attorney; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Director of Probation, and the State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Bick, seconded by Mr. Schrader, Report and Resolution No. 13 sponsored by the Committee on County Planning & Development and the Committee on Ways & Means authorizing contracts for the youth programs and youth team sports for 2026 was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 13

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS FOR THE YOUTH PROGRAMS AND YOUTH TEAM SPORTS FOR 2026

**Sponsored by: Committee on County Planning and Development
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 30, 2025, from Rachael Case, Executive Director of the Herkimer County Youth Bureau, this Legislature is advised that the New York State Office of Children and Family Services has approved Herkimer County's Resource Allocation Plan (RAP) for 2026, which includes requested state aid in the amount of \$152,325; and

WHEREAS, by said letter, the Executive Director of the Herkimer County Youth Bureau advises that the Youth Bureau now desires to enter into contracts for 2026 with local agencies for the implementation of the Youth Development Programs as well as contracts for local youth sports programs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is hereby authorized to execute contracts, subject to reimbursement from the State of New York, with the following agencies in the amounts listed:

Youth Development Funding:

Little Falls YMCA, School's Out Scholarship Program - \$4,500

Little Falls YMCA, Unsupervised Youth Alternatives - \$4,500

Little Falls Family YMCA, 15 Jackson Street, Little Falls NY, 13365

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, Domestic Violence Program - \$8,000

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, Youth Summit - \$1,250

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, Safe Harbour - \$5,000

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, 61 West Street, Ilion, NY 13357

Center for Family Life and Recovery, Short Term Prevention Services - \$10,000

Center for Family Life and Recovery, 502 Court Street, Suite 401, Utica, NY 13502

Herkimer County BOCES, Rescue Heroes - \$12,000

Herkimer County BOCES, 352 Gros Blvd., Herkimer, NY 13350

Youth Afterschool Program - \$1,500

Kommunity Youth Activity Center, Inc., P.O. Box 45, Old Forge, NY 13420

Youth Sports Education Funding:

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, Runaway and Homeless Youth Fitness Program - \$10,513

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, 61 West Street, Ilion, NY 13357

Recreation Connections of Old Forge, P.O. Box 825, Old Forge, NY 13420 - \$4,500

Herkimer Softball League, 104 Petrie Road, Herkimer, NY 13350 - \$4,500

Central Valley Little League, 1057 Elizabethtown, Ilion, NY 13357 - \$4,500

Inlet Mighty Loons Hockey Club, P.O. Box 421, Inlet, NY 13360 - \$4,500

Kuyahoora AYSO, 137 Cold Brook Street, Poland, NY 13431 - \$4,500

Runaway and Homeless Youth (60% state funding, 20% agency match, 20% county match)

Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program –

\$20,033 – State share,

\$ 6,667 – Catholic Charities match,

\$ 6,667 – Herkimer County match

Program total: \$33,388

Youth Team Sports funding:

District 3 Wrestling, 133 E. Main Street, Frankfort, NY 13340 - \$4,500

Central Valley Pop Warner, 146 McKensy Place, Mohawk NY 13407 - \$4,500

Frankfort Little League, 1196 State Route 171, Frankfort, NY 13340 - \$4,500

Herkimer Hornets, P.O. Box 785, Herkimer, NY 13350 - \$4,500

Little Falls Youth Wrestling, 224 Burwell Street, Little Falls, NY 13365 - \$4,500

Dolgeville AYSO, 58 Dolge Ave., Dolgeville, NY 13329 - \$4,500

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Executive Director of the Herkimer County Youth Bureau, and the above listed agencies.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mrs. Wares, seconded by Mr. Donley, Report and Resolution No. 14 sponsored by the Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Management and the Committee on Ways & Means accepting SICG Target Grant funding, authorizing e-signature, creating project number, and amending 2026 Budget was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 14

REPORT AND RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SICG TARGET GRANT FUNDING, AUTHORIZING E-SIGNATURE, CREATING PROJECT NUMBER, AND AMENDING 2026 BUDGET

**Sponsored by: Committee on Public Safety/Emergency Management
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 31, 2025, Albert J. Moxham, Jr., Director of Emergency Services has advised of the receipt of the State Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) for 2024-2025 in the amount of \$975,000.00, for the period of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2029; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 31, 2025 from Sheri A. Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised that it is necessary to amend the 2026 Budget and create a new project, and further advises that said funds will be advanced by the County, with reimbursement from the grant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the above described grant is hereby accepted, a project number be created, and that the 2026 Budget be amended as follows:

REVENUE:

H0000001 430970, Gen. Gov't Capital Projects, Project 19-10	FROM: \$0	
	TO: \$975,000	

EXPENSE:

H3020000 525000, Public Safety Communications, Other Equipment, Project 19-10

FROM: \$0
TO: \$800,000

H3020000 544000, Public Safety Communications, Contracted Services, Project 19-10

FROM: \$0
TO: \$175,000

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Legislature be authorized to e-sign the grant document;
and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Treasurer is authorized to make any necessary adjustments to the interfund transfer accounts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and Director of Emergency Services.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Keeler, Report and Resolution No. 15 sponsored by the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means approving purchase at Herkimer County Community College was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 15

REPORT AND RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE AT HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Sponsored by: Committee on Education
Committee on Ways & Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 31, 2025, Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent, has advised that a proposal has been received from Linstar for an Emergency Phone Two Tone Tower Expansion Program to include all equipment and installation on the Herkimer College Campus; and

WHEREAS, said letter further advises the cost will be \$19,131.22, which is New York State contract pricing, with the funds coming from the money already budgeted in the parking lot project; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the above described purchase from Linstar for an Emergency Phone Two Tone Tower Expansion Program to include all equipment and installation on the Herkimer College Campus is approved in the amount of \$19,131.22; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and President of Herkimer County Community College.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Gaworecki, seconded by Mrs. Wares, Report and Resolution No. 16 sponsored by the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means approving amendment to contract with C&S Engineers, Inc. in connection with projects at HCCC was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 16

REPORT AND RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH C&S ENGINEERS, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH PROJECTS AT HCCC

**Sponsored by: Committee on Education
Committee on Ways & Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 7, 2026 from Sheri A. Ferdula, Budget Officer/ Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised that C&S Engineers, Inc., P.O. Box 64366, Baltimore, MD 21264, is the construction management firm overseeing the projects at the Herkimer County Community College; and

WHEREAS, said letter further advises that they are requesting an amendment to the original contract for services for an additional fee to compensate for services to extend through project completions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the contract with C&S Engineers, Inc. is hereby amended for an additional \$58,054, bringing the new total to \$251,810, with mileage not to exceed \$19,110, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, President of Herkimer County Community College, and C&S Engineers, Inc.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Donley, seconded by Mr. Weakley, Report and Resolution No. 17 sponsored by the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means approving amendment to contract for architect for college project was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 17

REPORT AND RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT FOR ARCHITECT FOR COLLEGE PROJECT

**Sponsored by: Committee on Education
Committee on Ways & Means**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 407 of 2023 awarded a contract for an engineer for the baseball and softball reconstruction projects at Herkimer County Community College to The LA Group Landscape & Engineering P.C., 40 Long Alley, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, in the amount of \$610,000; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 31, 2025 from Sheri A. Ferdula, Budget Officer/ Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised that a proposal has been received for an amendment to the original contract in the amount of \$24,000, bringing the total contract to \$634,000; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the contract with The LA Group Landscape & Engineering P.C., is hereby amended for an additional \$24,000, bringing the total contract to \$634,000, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, President of Herkimer County Community College, and The LA Group Landscape & Engineering P.C.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Ms. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Wedemeyer, Report and Resolution No. 18 sponsored by the Committee on Education and the Committee on Ways & Means approving amendment to contract with CS Arch for the PE Renovation project at HCCC was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 18

REPORT AND RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH CS ARCH FOR THE PE RENOVATION PROJECT AT HCCC

**Sponsored by: Committee on Education
Committee on Ways & Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 31, 2025 from Sheri A. Ferdula, Budget Officer/ Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised that CS Arch, 40 Beaver Street, Albany, NY 12207, is the architect and engineering firm heading the PE renovation project at Herkimer County Community College; and

WHEREAS, said letter further advises that they are requesting an amendment to the original contract for services for an additional fee to compensate time spent beyond the planned construction end date of December 1, 2025; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the contract with CS Arch is hereby amended for an additional \$9,715, bringing the new total to \$226,915, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, President of Herkimer County Community College, and CS Arch.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Malta, seconded by Mr. Donley, Report and Resolution No. 19 sponsored by the Committee on Ways & Means authorizing appropriation of funds was handed up; voted on and adopted by roll call vote:

For: Malta, Gaworecki, Schrader, Wedemeyer, Brewer, Bennett, Keeler, Brezinski, Bick, Swartz, Lucenti, Ackerman, Donley, Campione, Wares, Weakley (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 19

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Sponsored by: Committee on Ways & Means

WHEREAS, your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred a communication from Sheri A. Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent, dated December 31, 2025, submitting a request for appropriation of funds to reimburse the Employment and Training Department for the College Corps Program; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent has advised that funds have been verified and are available for this appropriation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that an appropriation be made in the 2025 Budget as follows:

\$14,948.44 From: A0000000 390900, Fund Balance
 To: CD868900 450310, ETA College Corp Program, College Corps.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Treasurer is authorized to make any necessary adjustments to the interfund transfer accounts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and Director of Employment & Training.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mr. Bick, Report and Resolution No. 20 sponsored by the Committee on Information Services and the Committee on Ways & Means renewing maintenance contract in the Information Services Department was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 20

REPORT AND RESOLUTION RENEWING MAINTENANCE CONTRACT IN THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Sponsored by: Committee on Information Services
 Committee on Ways & Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 3, 2025, Michael Testa, Director of Information Services, has requested authorization to renew the SecureX Modification annual maintenance contract through ConvergeOne of 421 Broad Street, Utica, NY at the 2026 annual cost of \$46,225.20; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the above renewal of the SecureX Modification annual maintenance contract through ConvergeOne at the 2026 annual cost of \$46,225.20 is hereby approved; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Director of Information Services, and ConvergeOne.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Bick, seconded by Mr. Schrader, Report and Resolution No. 21 sponsored by the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means authorizing contract renewal for Office for the Aging for MIPPA/ADRC funding was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 21

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR OFFICE FOR THE AGING FOR MIPPA/ADRC FUNDING

**Sponsored by: Committee on Human Resources
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 2, 2026 from Kathy Fox, Director of the Office for the Aging, this Legislature is advised of a request to submit an additional application to receive MIPPA (Medicare Improvements for Patients & Providers Act)/ADRC (Aging and Disabilities Resource Center) funding; the purpose of this funding is to provide health insurance information, counseling and assistance to older individuals and their families; MIPPA/ADRC is specifically designed to outreach and provide direct application assistance to Medicare beneficiaries who are likely to be eligible for the Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy, the Medicare Savings Program, and to provide information about wellness/prevention programs; a portion of the funding is allocated to NY Connects under the ADRC portion of the grant; a portion of the funds (\$500) will be used by the Office for the Aging to provide community presentations and to distribute information about the programs; the grant period is from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026, with an estimated award to be \$19,707.00; and

WHEREAS, said letter further requests a contract with Catholic Charities of Herkimer County to administer said program in the amount of \$19,207.00 to be used for the Health Insurance Information and Counseling Program (HIICAP); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents in connection with the receipt of funding for the MIPPA/ADRC Program in the amount of \$19,707.00, with said grant period to be from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is further authorized to execute a contract with Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, 61 West Street, Ilion, New York, in the amount of \$19,207.00 to administer said Program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Director of the Office for the Aging, and Catholic Charities of Herkimer County.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Gaworecki, seconded by Mrs. Wares, Report and Resolution No. 22 sponsored by the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means amending Resolution No. 90 of 2025 for amendment to contract for Herkimer County Office for the Aging was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 22

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 90 OF 2025 FOR AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT FOR HERKIMER COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

**Sponsored by: Committee on Human Resources
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 90 of 2025, authorized contracts for the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) for the Herkimer County Office for the Aging; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 12, 2025, from Kathy L. Fox, Director of the Office for the Aging, this Legislature is advised of a request to amend a contract with Home Aide Services of the Central Adirondacks to increase the contract amount from \$25,300 to \$45,500; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 90 of 2025 is amended to increase the contract amount from \$25,300 to \$45,500 with Home Aide Services of the Central Adirondacks; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature is hereby authorized to execute said amended contract, with the terms and conditions of said contract to be subject to the approval of the Herkimer County Attorney; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in all other respects Resolution No. 90 of 2025 shall remain in full force and effect; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Director of the Office for the Aging, and Home Aide Services of the Central Adirondacks.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Schrader, seconded by Ms. Bennett, Report and Resolution No. 23 sponsored by the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means accepting funding, amending budget, and creating accounts in Office for the Aging was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 23

REPORT AND RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FUNDING, AMENDING BUDGET, AND CREATING ACCOUNTS IN OFFICE FOR THE AGING

**Sponsored by: Committee on Human Resources
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 19, 2025 from Kathy Fox, Director of the Office for the Aging, this Legislature is advised of a request to accept funds from the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties to implement the Mobile Senior Center, in the amount of \$15,000; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 31, 2025 from Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised that the 2026 budget will need to be amended to allow for use of these funds as well as creating accounts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the 2026 Herkimer County Budget is hereby amended in the amounts listed:

A6788000 419890, OFA, Community Foundation	\$15,000
A6788000 522000, OFA, Community Foundation, Computer Equipment	\$3,500
A6788000 542100, OFA, Community Foundation, Telephone	\$1,100
A6788000 541000, OFA, Community Foundation, Supplies	\$6,250
A6788000 544000, OFA, Community Foundation, Contracted	\$2,500
A6788000 546000, OFA, Community Foundation, Miscellaneous	\$650
A6788000 546100, OFA, Community Foundation, Mileage	\$1,000

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the above described funding is accepted from the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties to implement the Mobile Senior Center; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and Director of the Office for the Aging.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mrs. Wares, Report and Resolution No. 24 sponsored by the Committee on Ways & Means authorizing Chairman to sign Memorandum of Agreement with Union was handed up; voted on and adopted by roll call vote:

For: Malta, Gaworecki, Schrader, Wedemeyer, Brewer, Bennett, Keeler, Brezinski, Bick, Swartz, Lucenti, Ackerman, Donley, Campione, Wares, Weakley (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 24

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH UNION

Sponsored by: Committee on Ways and Means

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 12, 2025 from Steven R. Billings, Personnel Officer, this Legislature is advised of a request to authorize the Chairman to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with CSEA Inc., Local 1000; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Agreement will authorize a change to Article XIV, Section 5 to adjust the work hours of the maintenance department at Herkimer County Community College; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that it is authorized for the Chairman to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with CSEA Inc., Local 1000 to authorize a change to Article XIV, Section 5 to adjust the work hours of the maintenance department at Herkimer County Community College; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Personnel Officer, President of Herkimer County Community College and CSEA Inc., Local 1000.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Gaworecki seconded by Mr. Swartz, Report and Resolution No. 25 sponsored by the Committee on County Properties and the Committee on Ways & Means approving purchase for Sheriff's Department and appropriating funds was handed up; voted on and adopted by roll call vote:

For: Malta, Gaworecki, Schrader, Wedemeyer, Brewer, Bennett, Keeler, Brezinski, Bick, Swartz, Lucenti, Ackerman, Donley, Campione, Wares, Weakley (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 25

REPORT AND RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE FOR SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

**Sponsored by: Committee on County Properties
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 2, 2026, Scott F. Scherer, Sheriff, has requested approval for the installation of the new water softener to service the correctional facility and new administration building through HJ Brandeles Corporation, at a cost of \$25,000; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 2, 2026, Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent, this Legislature is advised that it is necessary to appropriate funds to complete the installation; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer/Purchasing Agent has advised that funds have been verified and are available for this appropriation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that an appropriation be made as follows:

\$25,000	From: A0000001 288913, Reserve, Correctional Facility Fund
	To: A3150000 544000, Jail, Contracted Services

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Herkimer County Legislature hereby approves the above described purchase; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and Sheriff.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Weakley, seconded by Mr. Lucenti, Report and Resolution No. 26 sponsored by the Committee on Human Resources and the Committee on Ways & Means authorizing outside counsel for the Department of Social Services was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 26

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**Sponsored by: Committee on Human Resources
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 13, 2026, Timothy Seymour, Commissioner of Social Services has requested authorization to hire an outside attorney (licensed to practice law in New York) to provide representation for DSS with the current case conflict as well as any conflict that may occur until there is sufficient legal staff; and

WHEREAS, said letter further requests an hourly wage rate be established and set at “up to \$158 per hour” and that the Commissioner of DSS be authorized to select the attorney and set the pay rate within the stated parameters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature is authorized to execute agreements with outside attorneys to provide representation for the Department of Social Services for cases where the DSS attorneys have conflicts, at an hourly rate not to exceed \$158 per hour; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, Personnel Officer, and Commissioner of Social Services.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Ackerman, seconded by Mr. Malta, Report and Resolution No. 27 sponsored by the Committee on County Properties authorizing transfer of real property to the Herkimer County Land Bank Corporation was handed up; voted on and adopted by roll call vote:

For: Malta, Gaworecki, Schrader, Wedemeyer, Brewer, Bennett, Keeler, Brezinski, Bick, Swartz, Lucenti, Ackerman, Donley, Campione, Wares, Weakley (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 27

REPORT AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE HERKIMER COUNTY LAND BANK CORPORATION

Sponsored by: Committee on County Properties

WHEREAS, the premises located at 900 State Route 5S in the Town of German Flatts, County of Herkimer, and identified as Parcel #121.1-4-49 included in the County's 2022 In Rem Tax Foreclosure Proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the County of Herkimer took title to said property pursuant to the In Rem Proceeding by Deed recorded on August 12, 2025 at Instrument RP2025-3315; and

WHEREAS, the County of Herkimer placed said premises in the September-October 2025 County Tax Foreclosure Auction and the high bidder defaulted on payment and did not acquire the property; and

WHEREAS, the County of Herkimer has received a letter from Michael Edwards on behalf of the Herkimer County Land Bank requesting transfer of Parcel #121.1-4-49 from the County to the Land Bank; and

WHEREAS, unpaid taxes are due and owing for said premises; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County of Herkimer has taken title by Deed recorded on August 12, 2025 at Instrument RP2025-3315, and thereafter will transfer the premises to the Land Bank, so long as the Land Bank adopts a resolution agreeing to take title to said parcel and to indemnify the County and hold it harmless from any suit, claim, cause of action or cost of any kind or nature in connection with the premises, including any such issue related to environmental contamination or cleanup of or otherwise related to the premises or claims for surplus; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this Legislature further determines that there is no practical method to enforce the collection of taxes on the premises and that a supplementary proceeding to enforce collection will not be effective because of the dilapidated condition of the parcel; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that upon conveyance of the above described premises to the Land Bank, the delinquent tax liens, together with penalties and interest accrued as of the date of transfer on said parcel shall be cancelled by the County Property Agent; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of this Legislature is hereby authorized to execute the necessary contract(s) and deed(s) and related documents in connection with the accomplishment of the above transfer; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that upon such conveyance, the County Property Agent is hereby authorized to issue and file Certificate of Cancellation of the said taxes; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, County Property Agent, and the Land Bank.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Schrader, seconded by Mr. Wedemeyer, Report and Resolution No. 28 sponsored by the Committee on Ways & Means establishing registration fee in connection with short-term rentals was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 28

REPORT AND RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING REGISTRATION FEE IN CONNECTION WITH SHORT-TERM RENTALS

Sponsored by: Committee on Ways and Means

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 12, 2026 from Kim Enea, County Treasurer, this Legislature is advised of a request to establish a county registration fee for the required registration of short-term rental properties now required by New York State law; and

WHEREAS, the Herkimer County Treasurer has recommended an amount of \$100.00 per year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Herkimer County establish a registration fee for the required registration of the short-term rental properties in the amount of \$100.00 annually commencing for the year 2026; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the payment of the registration fee be on a calendar year basis beginning with January 1, 2026, and commencing on January 1st of each year thereafter; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is authorized to open a separate bank account at her discretion as needed for collection of short-term rental fees; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and County Attorney.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Wedemeyer, Resolution No. 29 sponsored by the Committee on Administration/Veterans' Affairs in support of Congressman Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act and in opposition to government-mandated natural gas bans was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 29

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN NICK LANGWORTHY'S
ENERGY CHOICE ACT (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) AND IN OPPOSITION TO
GOVERNMENT-MANDATED NATURAL GAS BANS**

Sponsored by: Committee on Administration/Veterans' Affairs

WHEREAS, affordable and reliable energy is essential to the health, safety, and economic prosperity of New York families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, natural gas remains a dependable, cost-effective, and clean-burning energy source used by millions of New Yorkers to heat their homes, cook their food, and power their businesses; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, New York State enacted the **Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)**, which mandates aggressive emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for sweeping energy restrictions, including efforts to phase out natural gas; and

WHEREAS, building on the CLCPA, Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature in 2023 enacted provisions in the state budget banning natural gas and other fossil fuel hookups in most new construction of residential and commercial buildings, effective 2026 for smaller buildings, and 2029 for larger buildings, thereby eliminating consumer choice and limiting access to affordable energy; and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul has publicly supported these bans and related measures as part of her administration's climate and energy agenda, despite widespread concerns that such mandates will increase costs, strain grid reliability, and restrict energy diversity; and

WHEREAS, these top-down policies undermine affordability, threaten reliability during peak demand, and strip away the freedom of consumers and businesses to choose the energy sources that best meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Nick Langworthy of New York and Senator Jim Justice of West Virginia introduced the **Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945)**, federal legislation that ensures state and local governments cannot restrict consumer access to natural gas and other affordable energy sources, thereby protecting freedom of choice for New Yorkers and all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Choice Act would safeguard households, small businesses, hospitals, farmers, and manufacturers from harmful government overreach and preserve access to an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that strengthens reliability and affordability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Herkimer County Legislature strongly supports the Energy Choice Act as introduced by Congressman Langworthy (H.R. 3699) and Senator Justice (S. 1945) and stands firmly opposed to New York State's natural gas bans, the CLCPA-driven restrictions, and other state energy mandates that eliminate consumer choice; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Herkimer County Legislature urges Congress to pass the Energy Choice Act to defend consumer choice, protect energy affordability, and preserve reliable access to natural gas for New Yorkers; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Congressman Nick Langworthy, Senator Jim Justice, the New York Congressional delegation, Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Kathy Hochul, Assemblyman Brian Miller, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Senator Mark Walczyk, Senator Joseph A. Griffo, and New York State Association of Counties.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Weakley, seconded by Mr. Donley, Report and Resolution No. 30 sponsored by the Committee on Highways and the Committee on Ways & Means approving repairs to excavator in the Highway Department was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (16).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 30

REPORT AND RESOLUTION APPROVING REPAIRS TO EXCAVATOR IN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

**Sponsored by: Committee on Highways
Committee on Ways and Means**

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 14, 2026, Mark Nagele, County Highway Superintendent, has requested approval for repairs to Excavator No. 8, Cat 318; and

WHEREAS, said letter advises an estimate has been received from Milton Cat for the products needed for the hydraulic motor and transmission repairs in the amount of \$30,370.74, with the work to be completed at the highway garage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the hydraulic motor and transmission repairs to Excavator No. 8, Cat 318 is approved, for a total price of \$30,370.74, from Milton Cat; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Herkimer County Treasurer, Auditor, Budget Officer, and Highway Superintendent.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mr. Bick, Resolution No. 31 sponsored by the Committee on Highways for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway

Nomination and Corridor Management Plan adoption was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

For: Ayes (15).

Against: None.

Absent: Haehl (1).

Abstain: Gaworecki (1).



HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

No. 31

A RESOLUTION FOR HARRIET TUBMAN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NEW YORK SCENIC BYWAY NOMINATION AND CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION

Sponsored by: Committee on Highways

WHEREAS, the historic qualities of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, as described in the corridor management plan, and the surrounding areas have been appreciated and celebrated for over a century by the residents of New York State, as well as tourists, historians, artists, authors, and other visitors to the region; and it is this unique combination of the journeys of Harriet Tubman and those Freedom Seekers who traveled on the Underground Railroad that create the special sense of place that is vital in telling the New York story of the human desire for freedom and the historic sites they utilized during their journey to emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, composed of representatives of 22 municipalities along the proposed scenic byway route, committed to working cooperatively to protect and promote the historic, scenic, recreational, and economic well-being of the 550-mile Corridor throughout the state and agreed to pursue the nomination of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee, each of the 22 counties contributed to the development of this corridor management plan by encouraging public participation, confirming the vision and goals, and leading individual meetings of the Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, consisting of relatives of Harriet Tubman, descendants of Freedom Seekers, Harriet Tubman and/or Underground Railroad historians, representatives from state and federal agencies, has strengthened the historic integrity, representation, and the principles of the corridor management plan; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing this corridor management plan, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee has strengthened the bonds of inter-municipal cooperation, and the involved entities envision further benefit

through scenic byway designation including sustained collaborative progress, increased funding opportunities for recommendations identified in the plan, enhanced partnerships with agencies responsible for the stewardship of resources along and adjacent to the byway route, and an improved visitor experience that interprets and promotes the corridor's intrinsic qualities and resources; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County of Herkimer supports the designation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway which includes programs for stewardship and enhancement of the historic scenic byway and guidance to manage future activities along its corridor; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the County of Herkimer confirms that they will abide by and follow all existing New York State and Federal laws and regulations that are applicable to this resolution; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the County of Herkimer will work in partnership with the other municipalities along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway and local and regional stakeholders in order to support future Byway programs, economic development, marketing, and collaborate with these interested entities to explore opportunities for cooperation to realize the Scenic Byway goals; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to New York State Department of Transportation, Town of Danube, Town of Little Falls, Town of German Flatts, Village of Mohawk, Village of Ilion, Village of Frankfort, Town of Frankfort, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway Organization.

Dated: January 21, 2026.

Chairman Campione stated that pursuant to Rule 6(12) they would proceed with comments by Legislators. The following Legislators made a comment: Legislator Ackerman, Legislator Gaworecki, and Legislator Schrader.

At 7:17 p.m. on motion of Mr. Malta, seconded by Mr. Brewer, the Legislature adjourned to Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 7: 00 p.m.

Brittney R. Viscomi, Clerk