

# ORGANIZATION MEETING, THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

## ORGANIZATION MEETING

January 7, 2021

The County Legislature convened via videoconferencing due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19 pandemic), on the 7th day of January, Two Thousand Twenty One, a 3:35 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence and please remember former Legislator Ernest Green who recently passed away. Also, please remember all those affected by the Coronavirus and the families of those who have unfortunately passed away by Jean M. Ramppen, Clerk of the Legislature. The Clerk of the Legislature acted as Temporary Chairman.

A roll call, being taken, the following Legislators representing their respective Legislative Districts were present and answered to their names as follows:

Michael Amo	First Legislative District
Janet Sutherland	Second Legislative District
Paul Ruskiewicz	Third Legislative District
<b>Kevindaryán Luján</b>	Fourth Legislative District
Katie Bonelli	Fifth Legislative District
James M. Kulisek	Sixth Legislative District
Peter V. Tuohy	Seventh Legislative District
Barry J. Cheney	Eighth Legislative District
L. Stephen Brescia	Ninth Legislative District
John S. Vero	Tenth Legislative District
Kathy A. Stegenga	Eleventh Legislative District
Kevin W. Hines	Twelfth Legislative District
Thomas J. Faggione	Thirteenth Legislative District
Laurie R. Tautel	Fourteenth Legislative District
Joseph J. Minuta	Fifteenth Legislative District
Leigh J. Benton	Sixteenth Legislative District
Mike Anagnostakis	Seventeenth Legislative District
Rob Sassi	Eighteenth Legislative District
Michael D. Paduch	Nineteenth Legislative District
Joel Sierra	Twentieth Legislative District
James D. O'Donnell	Twenty-first Legislative District

The Temporary Chair stated that the first order of business would be to elect a Chairman of the County Legislature for the year 2021.

The Temporary Chair recognized Mr. Benton who placed in nomination the name of L. Stephen Brescia as Chairman of the Orange County Legislature. He is a senior member along with himself, Mr. Paduch and Mr. Amo. It has been a complete pleasure to serve with him on this Legislature for twenty-three years. His door is always open. Sometimes things can get heated but we all discuss issues how we want to and get to express our opinions and everything is weighed evenly. It is his honor to place in nomination L. Stephen Brescia as Chairman of the Orange County Legislature for the ensuing year of 2021.

Mr. O'Donnell seconded the nomination of L. Stephen Brescia as Chairman of the Orange County Legislature for 2021. Over the past four years since he has been a Legislator, Chairman Brescia has been a very effective leader. Our finances are in good shape and our taxes

continue to be within the cap and Orange County continues to be a great place to live, work and raise a family. As Legislator Benton stated, he listens to all of the other twenty Legislators with an open mind. It is not easy to handle twenty different personalities with twenty different agendas, but he does so in a fair manner, which is key to be able to lead. It is for these reasons that he seconded the nomination for L. Stephen Brescia as the 2021 Chairman of the Orange County Legislature.

Mr. Luján commented that in previous years he and his colleagues have voted in the affirmative for Chairman Brescia, recognizing the clear majority but also as a sign of good faith and willingness to work together on the challenges that impact our entire county. Over the last few years, particularly during the pandemic, that sign of good faith has felt more and more one sided. Under Chairman Brescia's leadership he has unfortunately seen individuals be escorted out of the Legislative Chamber for talking about issues that impact the health and safety of their family and neighbors. He saw firsthand how Chairman Brescia used his power to silence his fellow Legislators and himself on multiple occasions. Sadly, he does not believe this leadership conducive for healthy discussion. Under Chairman Brescia's leadership we have seen public comment has been completely eliminated in a year when so many individuals sought to express their concerns around racial justice and equality around health equity and disparity. The growing housing prices, unemployment in our county and the opportunity for county residents to speak on these issues has become non-existent. County residents have every right and obligation to share their concern with the legislative body and how the pandemic has impacted their community. As a representative, we have an obligation and responsibility to listen. This pandemic has shed a spotlight on many of our inadequacies as a country but also as the county. With so many challenges we miss important opportunities to create discussion and open dialogue with the communities we represent as a body, instead of making it easier for people to engage with us directly, we have chosen to hide behind technology. He concluded by stating that on a more personal note, he has deep reservation with the nomination. A few months ago, when Chairman Brescia rallied for support for his failed campaign for state senate, he stood right along with extremists, much like the ones who stormed the Capitol Building yesterday. He labeled him and other Democrats as radicals and socialists resulting in hateful attacks and threats to their lives. His inflammatory and dishonest attacks put his family in danger and members of the community. Much like the President's actions are reprehensible, so too are Chairman Brescia's. In his capacity as the Mayor of the Village of Montgomery, he doubled down on his support and right-wing extremist by approving a rally that was within blocks of voting sites in Montgomery Park. The voter intimidation was thankfully addressed and moved. While the Chairman made it clear that he will do everything to block the Democratic voices of this Legislature, he is neither bothered nor deterred by this. He finds it reprehensible for any Legislator, much less a Chairman, to try to silence Legislators who represent districts with immense issues with poverty and racism. That is inexcusable. It is not in the public good, nor does it represent responsible engaging inclusive 21<sup>st</sup> century leadership. He ask that if Chairman Brescia wished to truly be a leader of a bipartisan chamber, that he denounce the actions in Washington D.C. which has stained our democracy, he requests that he affirms his commitment to racial justice and equality by making the BLM resolution that has been stalled for months, a priority. He was prepared to abstain in a sign of good faith if the Chairman is willing to meet the request. He asked that his colleagues hold the Chairman to the same basic standards of decency. Whatever this Legislature decides, he wished whoever becomes Chairman in 2021 much success.

Mr. Vero stated that he was expecting a second nomination for someone else, not a personal attack on an individual in our caucus. He was very disappointed in what he just heard. Accusations that he knows for a fact are not true.

There being no other nominations, the Temporary Chair asked for a motion to close nominations.

Ms. Bonelli moved to close nominations for Chairman of the Orange County Legislature, seconded by Mr. Cheney.

The Temporary Chair cast one ballot for L. Stephen Brescia for Chairman of the Orange County Legislature, seconded by Mr. Tuohy.

By voice vote of the Temporary Chair, all in favor, with the exception of Mr. Paduch and Ms. Tautel who abstained.

The Temporary Chair called for a roll call.

Mr. Minuta requested Point of Order. He asked if there was a purpose for the abstention and how does one abstain from something. He asked if there was a definition for that.

Ms. Worthy-Spiegl stated that she would assume it was the same reason for abstentions as any other areas one would abstain, whether it is a conflict of interest or if you are intimately involved with an issue. For example, if you want to have an event at a certain place but you own the place, that would be a conflict of interest. She did not know what the grounds would be for an abstention, it would be more proper if you do not believe in it to vote nay.

Mr. Sassi asked what was the conflict.

Mr. Minuta stated that question was directed to those who abstained.

Mr. Benton suggested that they do what they do in Washington and Albany, say "present." It is not an affirmative or a negative or abstention, just say "present."

Mr. Sierra agreed with Mr. Benton's suggestion.

Mr. Chapman stated that in his past experience with Legislative Manuals, which he did not have in front of him at that time, but you would vote yes, you vote no or you abstain for a reason. He was not aware of any matter under Robert's Rules of Order to vote "present." He has seen Legislators all over the state abstain without any reason for it. If you abstain you normally have a pure conflict of interest or a reason.

Mr. Brescia commented to Mr. Paduch and Ms. Tautel that if it makes it easier to vote no, just vote no because there is no reason to abstain.

Ms. Tautel shared that her definition of abstain is to hold oneself back voluntarily, especially from something regarded as improper or unhealthy. Abstention means that you choose not to make a decision at that time for a yes or a no. That is her definition taught to her through many legislative classes and school.

Mr. Anagnostakis requested Point of Order by stating that he did not think the Legislative Manual spells out how someone should vote and it does not spell out if it is an abstention that the person has to clarify why he or she is abstaining.

Mr. Brescia stated that he would like better clarification on this at the Rules, Enactments and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting in January.

Ms. Tautel stated that she never saw, throughout her entire time as a Legislator and over the many years she observed government proceedings, a legislator or an elected representative have to give a reason for a yay, nay or abstention vote. Whatever the definition may be, the vote is at the choice of that elected representative however they wish to cast their vote.

Mr. Brescia disagreed and added that there has been reasons given.

Ms. Tautel stated that nothing that requires the person to give a reason.

Mr. Minuta stated that if there is a conflict of interest then those conflicts should be stated in writing as they do every year and he looked forward to further clarification.

Mr. Paduch mentioned that the dictionary states that an abstention is a formal act of voting either for or against the proposal. That is the definition of the word and that is why he is using it because he is not voting either for or against, he is abstaining.

Ms. Worthy-Spiegl stated that the definition in the Legislative Manual states "every Legislator present when a question is stated from the Chair shall vote thereon unless excused by the Chair or unless he be directly interested in the question," which to her means an abstention. "Unless a Legislator expresses his vote in the negative, the same will be recorded in the affirmative."

On roll call, the Chairman of the Orange County Legislature was elected by the following vote:

Ayes: Bonelli, Amo, Anagnostakis, Benton, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Minuta, O'Donnell, Ruskiewicz, Sassi, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Noes: Luján

Abstained: Paduch, Kulisek, Tautel, Sierra

Ayes 16;                      Noes 1;                      Abstention 4;                      Absent 0;                      ADOPTED.

The Temporary Chair announced that L. Stephen Brescia has been elected as Chairman of the Orange County Legislature for the year 2021.

Deputy County Clerk Kelly Eskew administered the oath of office to the Chairman.

Chairman Brescia thanked Deputy County Clerk Kelly Eskew for swearing him in. He also thanked his sister, Stacy for holding his Grandmother's Bible which has been in the family for many years. He also thanked Legislator Benton and Legislator O'Donnell who are both longtime friends. He is entering his eighth year serving as Chairman. There has only been one other Legislator who served as Chair for eight years so hopefully he can make it to the end of the year and his name will be right alongside of his. It has been a pleasure working with everyone. He knows that 2020 was a year that they never experienced in their lives and he thinks the fortitude of the Legislature and the county employees, the County Executive and everyone else, really meant a lot. They have an

amazing amount of fortitude for the ladies in the office. They concurred with the County Executive's budget in bipartisan fashion. They offered early retirement incentives, furloughs and cutbacks, whatever it took to stay within our budget. There are many challenges ahead for this year and he looked forward to taking those challenges head on. He will have an open-door policy like he always had. He did not have a planned speech. He was sorry that the nomination process denigrated to the way it was. He was not sour grapes about losing a campaign. There was a total of 20,000 more enrolled that were Democrats versus Republicans and his opponent has three times the money that he had but he ran a high road campaign. To accuse him of racism, he is aghast. It cuts below the belt and it is disgraceful and he does not stand with right-wing zealots, he does not stand with left-wing zealots and he certainly does not condone what happened in Washington D.C. yesterday, just like he does not condone activities of antifa, looting, rioting or anything else. He did go to one BLM rally in the Village of Montgomery and it was very peaceful. The police were there and it was very well run. If you are implying that he stands with right-wing zealots and that is law enforcement, he certainly stands with law enforcement but he does not stand with law enforcement that breaks the law. For someone to impugn his character, he has very little respect for Mr. Luján, it is disgraceful. He served with two Legislators that represented that district with honor and distinction for the City of Newburgh for many years. He was sure that both gentlemen, Harvey Burger and Curlie Dillard will vouch for his character and he would vouch for theirs. They voted on many issues differently, they disagreed on many issues, but they were very proud of our districts, our representation and they were very professional, unlike Mr. Luján. Mr. Luján has a lot to say and he has a lot to learn in government. He has been in government for three years and you expect a lot but do not want to give anything in return, he does not want to compromise. Mr. Luján wants to go out and grandstand and he is not about that and they were not about that. He is doing a disservice to his constituents in the City of Newburgh. He has always been for racial equality and social justice. The memorialization that will be discussed at the Rules, Enactments and Intergovernmental Relations, which should have been addressed in October and the person bringing it forward should have spoken to the Chair of that committee and follow the process. The process has not changed in the twenty-seven years since he has been here and should not be reinvented. He addressed Mr. Luján by stating he was sorry he feels this way and that he feels he needs to reach off of a sound bite script today, and impugn his character. He served more than half his life in government and he can assure him that he is not a racist and it is disgraceful what he said about him today. He is embarrassed for him.

Mr. Faggione congratulated Chairman Brescia on his election as Chairman of the Legislature for the year 2021. It was his pleasure to announce that at a meeting of the Republican Caucus, it was determined via election that Majority Leader Katie Bonelli will return again as the leader of the Republican Caucus and serve as the Majority Leader of the Orange County Legislature for the year 2021. If the year 2020 has taught us anything, it is that in time of crisis, it is so important that they have good, strong and honest and fair leadership. Katie Bonelli represents that everyday in all her actions. She is someone he admires, she is someone he looks up to, someone he can rely on and someone he can depend on for her counsel and her guidance and also working with her in the Legislature. She has done an amazing job as majority leader and works so well with all the caucuses, our staff and county government and all agencies. It is his pleasure to announce that Majority Leader for the year 2021 will be Legislator Katie Bonelli.

Ms. Tautel stated that it was her pleasure to announce that Michael Paduch has been chosen by the Democratic Caucus by unanimous vote to be their Minority Leader. Mr. Paduch is a proven leader who is fair, honest and constantly working to protect Orange County taxpayers and listens to both sides of an issue with an open mind. Mike has worked tirelessly for the Democratic Caucus and Orange County as a whole. You can trust Mike to always act with integrity, fairness and honesty.

He treats everyone with respect. She wanted to thank Mr. Paduch for always being there for her and for the Orange County taxpayers and fellow Legislators.

Mr. Amo stated that the Independence Party Caucus has selected himself, Michael Amo, to be the Party Leader for 2021.

Ms. Tautel mentioned that she was confused because she thought the Independence Party was not going to be recognized on the ballots. She asked if it still counts as a majority caucus.

Chairman Brescia explained that they were not addressing it today but will get clarification at the Rules, Enactments and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting. He added that Mr. Amo is enrolled in the Independence/blank party. He noted that there were a lot of questions and everyone seems to think it is black and white but in fact it is not.

Ms. Tautel further mentioned that "blank" has never been considered a party, "blank" means you are unaffiliated with any party if she is not mistaken. She requested clarification on it and pointed out that she meant no disrespect towards Mr. Amo, it was just a little confusing.

Chairman Brescia stated he was asked a few questions on it but they do not know right now and hopefully will have clarification at the Rules, Enactments and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting this month.

Mr. Paduch stated that they all had a trying year. He thanked Ms. Tautel for her kind words and looked forward to working with the Democratic Caucus and all the Legislators. He congratulated Chairman Brescia and noted the issues that he said they will work on together and he looked forward to making things better. He congratulated Majority Leader Bonelli and mentioned that they work well together which is important for him to continue to work well will both the Chairman and the Majority Leader and Mr. Amo. It has been a tough year on all of them. He looked forward to making minor improvements throughout the year in regard to communication between all of them. He wished everyone luck for the year 2021.

Ms. Bonelli congratulated Chairman Brescia and she looked forward to working with him and all Legislators in the year 2021. She felt that they were all very strong with the way they had to navigate through 2020. It is unprecedented the things and challenges that they faced. She added that she was not only proud of the Republican team but who rose to the challenges and got the job done, but all twenty-one Legislators did. They learned a lot and she felt that some of the things they can take away are some of those positive things. It is unfortunate they had to listen to negative stuff at the beginning of this meeting but she knows she has worked very closely with Mr. Paduch as well as Mr. Amo and they have been able to develop a different type of program that they will embark on in the near future as far a diversity is concerned. They may have different approaches but they have a common goal and she looked forward to working with all of her colleagues as they move forward. She thanked her caucus for their confidence in her leadership and she thanked Mr. Faggione for her wonderful introduction to her nomination as Majority Leader for 2021.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Sponsor: Bonelli**  
**Co-Sponsor: Faggione**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1 OF 2021**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LEGISLATIVE MANUAL FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE AND THE RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE FOR THE ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATURE, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.02(a) OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CHARTER, SECTION 153 OF THE COUNTY LAW AND ARTICLE II, C 1(e), ARTICLE III (INTRODUCTION) AND ARTICLE IV, E 1(a) AND (b) OF THE SAID LEGISLATIVE MANUAL.**

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 2 of 1970, passed by the Orange County Legislature on January 8, 1970, the Legislative Manual for the County of Orange was adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, Article II, C, 1(e) (page II - 6) of said Manual provides that the County Legislature must adopt annually its Legislative Manual, including any amendments incorporated therein; and

**WHEREAS**, at this time the Committee on Rules, Enactments and Intergovernmental Relations has not reported or proposed any amendments to said Manual and Rules.

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY**

**RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Manual for the County of Orange and the Rules of Order and Procedure for the Orange County Legislature, heretofore adopted on January 8, 1970, and as previously amended, are hereby adopted.

Seconded by Mr. Vero.  
The vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bonelli, Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis, Benton, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Kulisek, Luján, Minuta, O'Donnell, Ruszkiewicz, Sassi, Sierra, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tautel, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Ayes 21;

Noes 0;

Absent 0;

ADOPTED.

**Sponsor: Bonelli**  
**Co-Sponsor: Faggione**

**"RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2021, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE II, C, 1 (f) OF THE LEGISLATIVE MANUAL."**

Seconded by Mr. Vero.

Mr. Faggione stated that the resolution before them was establishing the legislative calendar for the year 2021. He suggested to amend the resolution.

Mr. Faggione moved to amend Agenda Item No. 2, **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2021, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE II, C, 1 (f) OF THE LEGISLATIVE MANUAL** by changing the June 3, 2021 meeting from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Cheney.

Mr. Paduch was very happy about the amendment and he has a change also and asked if it was an appropriate time to state them.

Chairman Brescia pointed out that since he became Chairman in 2014, there were a few years they had one, two to three meetings in the evening. He mentioned that he spoke to Mr. Paduch and advised him that it was discussed in the Republican caucus and it was decided unanimously to add the one night meeting.

Mr. Paduch stated that over the last five years there were three or two meetings and then last year there were none. He stated that he would like to amend the calendar to have quarterly night meetings at 6:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. there is more of a chance for people to be able to watch the meeting or view online. Most people work until 5:00 p.m. so this would provide an opportunity to have a night meeting at 6:00 p.m. and the public could be part of the meeting and not shutting them out. People do not want to get caught at work watching YouTube viewing the legislative session. If we have these night meetings quarterly that would not be a problem and it is a perfect opportunity. No one has to worry about driving anywhere or bad weather, they can watch right from home. He added that maybe they can have some input from our taxpayers like they did for the public hearings. They can have four meetings at 6:00 p.m. and offer everyone the opportunity to join them. He was open to other suggestions and thought this would be a good idea and they should try it.

Mr. Paduch moved to amend Agenda Item No. 2, **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2021, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE II, C, 1 (f) OF THE LEGISLATIVE MANUAL** by changing March 4, 2021, May 6, 2021, July 1, 2021 and October 7, 2021 meetings from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Luján.

Mr. Kulisek pointed out that Mr. Faggione's amendment was to change the June 3, 2021 3:30 p.m. meeting to 7:00 p.m. and noted it was Senior Citizens day.

Chairman Brescia stated that there will be at least four maybe six virtual meetings in 2021 so it can be a night meeting, even though it is Senior Citizens Day.

Mr. Minuta stated that they discuss this topic every year since he has been a Legislator. They tried to do it in the past and it was the same turn out of people, in fact, he believed there were less people who attended the night meetings. To have a meeting at 6:00 p.m. would interfere with people's dinner schedules and people are just getting home from work. He was open to having meetings at those times but he is an advocate for consistency and he did not want to confuse the public. They have the technology and they are using the technology. They should choose a time that would serve the public.

Mr. Paduch commented on Mr. Minuta's remarks. Some people might be able to leave their job and sit in front of a laptop. The Chairman stated that at least the first four to six meetings would be virtual but he is open to work something out. He wants to make sure that the public has the opportunity to join them and make comments.

On roll call, Mr. Paduch's motion to change the March 4, 2021, May 6, 2021, July 1, 2021 and October 7, 2021 meetings from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. was defeated by the following vote:

Ayes: Paduch, Anagnostakis, Kulisek, Luján, Sierra, Tautel

Noes: Bonelli, Amo, Benton, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Minuta, Ruszkiewicz, Sassi, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Abstained: O'Donnell

Ayes 6; Noes 14; Abstention 1; Absent 0; DEFEATED.

Mr. Amo stated that they talk about representing their constituents, most of his constituents are in Synagogue in the evening at this time and they do not have access to the technology that they have. As Mr. Luján mentioned about the minority groups in the county, they both share a minority group, and they need to think about the issue they need to deal with.

Chairman Brescia mentioned that many Legislators attend their local town, city and village board meetings but they cannot do that if there is a night meeting, that is why they changed it to none in the past.

On roll call, Mr. Faggione's motion to change the June 3, 2021 meeting from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Bonelli, Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis, Benton, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Kulisek, Luján, Minuta, O'Donnell, Ruszkiewicz, Sassi, Sierra, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tautel, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Ayes 21; Noes 0; Absent 0; ADOPTED.

The resolution, as amended, follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2 OF 2021**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2021, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE II, C, 1 (f) OF THE LEGISLATIVE MANUAL.**

**WHEREAS**, Article II, C, 1 (f) of the Legislative Manual provides that a Legislative Calendar must be adopted, setting the date and time of all statutory meetings of the County Legislature for the calendar year, which calendar shall then be published.

**RESOLVED**, that the statutory meetings of the County Legislature, for the calendar year 2021, shall be held at the dates and times hereinafter stated:

January 7, 2021	3:30 P.M.
February 4, 2021	3:30 P.M.
March 4, 2021	3:30 P.M.
April 9, 2021 (Youth-in-Government)	10:00 A.M.
May 6, 2021	3:30 P.M.
June 3, 2021 (Senior Citizens)	7:00 P.M.

July 1, 2021	3:30 P.M.
August 5, 2021	3:30 P.M.
September 2, 2021	3:30 P.M.
October 7, 2021 (Annual)	3:30 P.M.
November 4, 2021	3:30 P.M.
December 2, 2021	3:30 P.M.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to publish the foregoing Legislative Calendar for the year 2021.

The vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bonelli, Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis, Benton, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Kulisek, **Luján**, Minuta, O'Donnell, Ruszkiewicz, Sassi, Sierra, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tautel, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Ayes 21;                      Noes 0;                      Absent 0;                      ADOPTED.

Chairman Brescia thanked all three caucuses for submitting their designations of newspapers on time this year.

Mr. Benton pointed out that he needed to abstain on agenda item nos. 3, 5 and 7 and if anyone had questions to refer to his Ethics Form.

The Clerk read the following:

**DESIGNATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE REPRESENTING THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEWSPAPERS TO PUBLISH THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND ELECTION NOTICES TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2021, PURSUANT TO SECTION 214 OF THE COUNTY LAW.**

We, the undersigned, being a majority of all Republican members of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, having given consideration to the newspapers advocating the principles of such party, the support of its nominees, and the extent of the circulation in the County, do hereby designate the following named newspapers, published within the County to publish in 2021 the matters immediately preceding the names of said newspapers, to wit:

1. To publish the CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS of the Legislature, The Orange County Post, P. O. Box 405, Vails Gate, NY 12584; News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518; Times Community Newspapers, 300 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550
2. To publish the ELECTION NOTICES issued by the Secretary of State, The Orange County Post, P. O. Box 405, Vails Gate, NY 12584; Times Community Newspapers, 300 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550; News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518; Warwick Advertiser-Photo News, 20 West Avenue, Chester, NY 10918; the Warwick Valley Dispatch, 2 Oakland Avenue, P.O. Box 594, Warwick, New York 10990; Times Herald Record, 40 Mulberry Street, Middletown, NY 10940

Dated: January 7, 2021

(Signed)

L. Stephen Brescia	James D. O'Donnell
Katherine E. Bonelli	Paul Ruskiewicz
Mike Anagnostakis	Rob Sassi
Barry J. Cheney	Kathy Stegenga
Kevin W. Hines	Janet Sutherland
Joseph J. Minuta	Peter V. Tuohy
John S. Vero	

On motion the same was received and ordered placed on file.

The Clerk read the following:

**DESIGNATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE REPRESENTING THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF NEWSPAPERS TO PUBLISH THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND ELECTION NOTICES TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2021, PURSUANT TO SECTION 214 OF THE COUNTY LAW.**

We, the undersigned, being a majority of all Democratic members of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, having given consideration to the newspapers advocating the principles of such party, the support of its nominees, and the extent of the circulation in the County, do hereby designate the following named newspapers, published within the County to publish in 2021 the matters immediately preceding the names of said newspapers, to wit:

1. To publish the CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS of the Legislature, the Goshen Independent, 132 West Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924; Hudson Valley Press, P. O. Box 2160, Newburgh, NY 12550; News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518
2. To publish the ELECTION NOTICES issued by the Secretary of State, Times Community Newspapers, 300 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550; Times Herald Record, 40 Mulberry Street, Middletown, NY 10940, the Goshen Independent, 132 West Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924; Hudson Valley Press, P. O. Box 2160, Newburgh, NY 12550; News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518

Dated: January 7, 2021

(Signed)

Michael D. Paduch  
James M. Kulisek  
Kevindaryán Luján  
Joel Sierra  
Laurie R. Tautel

On motion the same was received and ordered placed on file.

The Clerk read the following:

**DESIGNATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE REPRESENTING THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEWSPAPERS TO PUBLISH ALL LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2021, PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION 2 OF SECTION 214 OF THE COUNTY LAW.**

We, the undersigned, being a majority of all the Republican members of the County Legislature of the County of Orange having given consideration to the newspapers advocating the principles of such party, the support of its nominees, and the extent of the circulation in the County, do hereby designate the following named newspapers, published within the County to publish in 2021 the matters immediately preceding the names of said newspapers, to wit:

1. To publish as one of the OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, all LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS required to be published by the County Legislature, The Orange County Post, P. O. Box 405, Vails Gate, NY 12584
2. To publish as one of the OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, all LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS required to be published by the County Legislature, Warwick Advertiser-Photo News, 20 West Avenue, Chester, NY 10918
3. To publish as one of the OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, all LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS required to be published by the County Legislature, News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518
4. To publish as one of the OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, all LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS required to be published by the County Legislature, the Warwick Valley Dispatch, 2 Oakland Avenue, P.O. Box 594, Warwick, NY 10990

Dated: January 7, 2021

(Signed)

L. Stephen Brescia	James D. O'Donnell
Katherine E. Bonelli	Paul Ruskiewicz
Mike Anagnostakis	Rob Sassi
Barry J. Cheney	Kathy Stegenga
Kevin W. Hines	Janet Sutherland
Joseph J. Minuta	Peter V. Tuohy
John S. Vero	

On motion the same was received and ordered placed on file.

The Clerk read the following:

**DESIGNATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE REPRESENTING THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF NEWSPAPER TO PUBLISH ALL LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2021, PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION 2 OF SECTION 214 OF THE COUNTY LAW.**

We, the undersigned, being a majority of all the Democratic members of the County Legislature of the County of Orange having given consideration to the newspapers advocating the principles of such party, the support of its nominees, and the extent of the circulation in the County, do hereby designate the following named newspaper, published within the County to publish in 2021 the matters immediately preceding the name of said newspaper, to wit:

1. To publish as one of the OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, all LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS required to be published by the County Legislature, Times Community Newspapers, 300 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550; News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518
2. To publish as one of the OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS of the County Legislature of the County of Orange, all LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS required to be published by the County Legislature, Hudson Valley Press, P. O. Box 2160, Newburgh, NY 12550; News of the Highlands, Inc., P. O. Box 518, Cornwall, NY 12518

Dated: January 7, 2021

(Signed)

Michael D. Paduch  
 James M. Kulisek  
 Kevindaryán Luján  
 Joel Sierra  
 Laurie R. Tautel

On motion the same was received and ordered placed on file.

Sponsor: **Bonelli**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3 OF 2021**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED WITHIN THE COUNTY AS OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE PUBLICATION OF ALL LOCAL LAWS, NOTICES AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2021, PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION 2 OF SECTION 214 OF THE COUNTY LAW.**

**WHEREAS**, the County Legislature is required annually to designate at least two newspapers published within the County as official newspapers for the publication of local laws, notices and other matters required by law to be published, and in the making of such designations consideration shall

be given to those newspapers advocating the principles of the two major political parties into which the people of the State are divided, and their general circulation throughout the County.

**RESOLVED**, that The Orange County Post published in Vails Gate, New York; the Warwick Advertiser-Photo News, published in Chester, New York; the Warwick Valley Dispatch, published in Warwick, New York; News of the Highlands, Inc., published in Cornwall, New York; Times Community Newspapers, published in Newburgh, New York; and Hudson Valley Press, published in Newburgh, New York are hereby designated as official newspapers for the publication of all local laws, notices and other matters required by law to be published in the year 2021.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to prevent the designation of additional newspapers for any publication and such designation shall be deemed an official newspaper for that particular publication.

Seconded by Mr. Vero.  
The vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bonelli, Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Kulisek, **Luján, Minuta**, O'Donnell, Ruskiewicz, Sassi, Sierra, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tautel, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Abstained: Benton

Ayes 20;                      Noes 0;                      Abstention 1;                      Absent 0;                      ADOPTED.

Mr. Hines commented on the reprehensible events that took place at Washington D.C. He hoped that as Americans they would take away from that is that we should all be a little kinder to each other and that personal attacks are not the forum for elected officials. Elected officials should not attack each other because it can incite others to do the same. They should set an example for each other and they will have a great 2021. He was taught by nuns in Catholic elementary school that if you do not have anything nice to say then do not say it all. He hoped they would all perceive with that in mind.

Mr. Hines continued by commending the County Executive, Emergency Management Department, the County Health Department along with all the volunteers from our Reserve Corps. that inoculated 800 people yesterday at Emergency Services Center. All 800 doses were put in the arms of Orange County residents as it was their turn, it was emergency workers, doctors, nurses, paramedics, people that qualify. There are a lot of communities that cannot do that. It is an incredible task to get all 800 doses out at once. He hopes that Governor Cuomo respects that and sends out more because Orange County staff has proven to do that. You hear situations in New York City that they have doses, but they cannot give it to people because the right people are not showing up. It is impressive that Orange County was able to do that and they should all celebrate that as they move forward in this pandemic and Happy New Year to everybody.

Mr. Benton added to what Mr. Hines mentioned by stating that the state system crashed yesterday but Orange County was able to adjust to pencil and paper and get the job done and work around the crashed system.

Ms. Bonelli thanked Mr. Hines for mentioning the vaccinations. It was an incredible undertaking and the County Executive and his team deserve a lot of credit.

On motion of Ms. Tautel, seconded by Mr. Luján, the Legislature adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

ADJOURNED.

Jean M. Ramppen, Clerk