

## Agenda

Planning & Economic Development Committee

**July 17, 2019, 6:00 pm, Room 331**

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

- A. Call to Order
- B. Approval of Minutes (06/19/19)
- C. Privilege of the Floor
- 1. Proposed Resolution – Authorize Use of Funds from the Chautauqua County Sewer Agency to Assess the Feasibility of Treating Wastewater Flows from the Town of Sherman, Town of Mina, and Town of French Creek in the Village of Sherman Sewer Wastewater Treatment Plant
- 2. Proposed Resolution - Environmental Assessment of Projects for 2020 2% Occupancy Tax Projects
- 3. Proposed Resolution - Commitment of Funding Assistance for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Program Grant for the Bemus Creek Sediment Trap Project
- 4. Proposed Resolution - Authorize Chautauqua County State Grant Application and Commitment of Matching Funds for County Complex Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project
- 5. Proposed Resolution - Authorize Use of 3% Occupancy Tax Undesignated Off-Cycle Project Funding to Construct Educational Kiosks at the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial
- 6. Proposed Resolution - Authorize Use of 3% Occupancy Tax Undesignated Off-Cycle Project Funding to Support Marketing Efforts at the Grape Discover Center in Westfield
- 7. Proposed Resolution - Amend Resolution 137-19 – Authorize Use of 3% Occupancy Tax Monies to Support the Chautauqua Lake Pops by the Shore Series in Mayville
- 8. Proposed Resolution - Authorize Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau as the Local Tourist Promotion Agency for Matching Funds Program Sponsored by New York State Division of Tourism

9. Proposed Motion - In Opposition to Construction of Wind Turbine Farms on Lake Erie
10. Discussion – Update – 2020 Herbicide Applications to Chautauqua Lake – Dave McCoy
11. Other



RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby authorizes \$10,000.00 from the 2019 2% Occupancy Tax allocation for the Chautauqua County Sewer Agency to fund the expanded scope for the Comprehensive Evaluation of the Village of Sherman Wastewater Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is authorized and empowered to enter into agreements with the Village of Sherman to implement the actions set forth in this resolution.

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**APPROVED**

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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

DWM 6-25-19
ABC 7/1/19
KMD 7/1/19
KLC 7/1/19
GMB 7/3/19

**TITLE:** Environmental Assessment of Projects for 2020 2% Occupancy Tax Projects

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello:

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua County Legislature requested by Resolution No. 139-19 that the Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development (“CCDPD”) conduct a New York State Environmental Quality Review (“SEQRA”) for the projects approved by the Waterways Panel for funding in 2020 as set forth below, and provide a report and recommendations to the County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, CCDPD and the various involved agencies have reviewed the projects consistent with SEQRA and applicable state regulations; and

WHEREAS, the CCDPD recommends that the project ranked as number 7 on the Waterways Panel list provided below be classified as a Type II Action under 7 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.2 of the Environmental Conservation Law and does not require any additional environmental review; and

WHEREAS, the CCDPD recommends that the projects that are ranked as numbers 1 through 6 on the Waterways Panel list provided below be classified as Unlisted Actions under 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.2 of the Environmental Conservation Law; and

WHEREAS, the County has caused the attached Short Environmental Assessment Forms (SEAF) to be prepared for all projects recommended to be classified as Unlisted Actions; and

WHEREAS, the County has reviewed and analyzed the SEAF for each project, and considered any relevant areas of environmental concern and probable environmental impacts of the Actions to determine if the Actions may have any significant adverse environmental effects; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the County hereby finds and determines that Actions listed and identified below will not have a significant adverse environmental impact in accordance with New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, Article 8 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law, and pursuant to the implementing regulations found at 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617, and accordingly, is issuing a negative declaration.

<b>Project/Agency or Organization</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Recommended</b>
Mid Knight Holsteins	1	\$40,000	\$40,000
Chedwell	2	\$21,732	\$21,732
Summer Haven	3	\$15,800	\$15,800
Ellicott (Town)	4	\$39,700	\$39,700
Mission Meadows	5	\$34,000	\$34,000
Chautauqua (Town)	6	\$33,250	\$33,250
Boat Stewards	7	\$39,972	\$39,972
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$224,454</b>	<b>\$224,454</b>

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**APPROVED**  
**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

<b>DWM 7-5-19</b>
<b>TMT 7/5/19</b>
<b>ABC 7/8/19</b>
<b>KMD 7/8/19</b>
<b>KLC 7/8/19</b>
<b>GMB 7/8/19</b>

**TITLE:** Commitment of Funding Assistance for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Program Grant for the Bemus Creek Sediment Trap Project

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello:

WHEREAS, Chautauqua Lake is an invaluable asset to Chautauqua County but has been designated as an impaired water body and its health and usability are threatened; and

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua County Division of Planning and Community Development (CCPCD), the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD), the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance), and the Town of Ellery (Town) are partnering to provide grant writing, local match commitment, grant administration services, project management, construction services, and technical services to procure funding to deliver a sediment trap addition to Bemus Creek that will have a positive impact on the environmental health of Chautauqua Lake; and

WHEREAS, New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) offers state-wide grant funding programs that provide an opportunity to significantly leverage local resources; however, these grant programs are fiercely competitive and require a local match in cash and/or in-kind services with identified ineligible expenses; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 CFAs include New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP) grants for water quality projects; and

WHEREAS, the CCPCD, CCSWCD, Alliance, and Town identified the Bemus Creek Sediment Trap project for application to the WQIP grant program, which provides reimbursement for 75% of the total eligible project costs for water quality improvement projects with applicants providing the remaining local match contribution of at least 25% of the total eligible project costs; and

WHEREAS, the total eligible project costs have been identified at \$125,716 resulting in WQIP requested funding of \$94,287, and local match needs of \$31,429, as well as \$3,000 to cover grant administration (an ineligible expense as defined by WQIP grant parameters), for a grand total of \$128,716; and

WHEREAS, the Town has resolved to provide \$15,696 toward the local grant match in the form of in-kind services, leaving \$18,733 in needed additional local funding; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 131-15, the County reallocated capital project program dollars from the Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) to the Alliance specifically to provide matching funding for grants to undertake Alliance member capital projects to help Chautauqua Lake and its watershed, and \$34,252 of the original \$225,000 designation is still available; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the County shall commit \$18,733 in local funding towards the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation WQIP grant program for the Bemus Creek Sediment Trap project from the reallocated Alliance capital projects program funds established under Resolution 131-15.

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**APPROVED**

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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

<b>DWM 7-2-19</b> <b>ABC 7/3/19</b> <b>KMD 7/3/19</b> <b>KLC 7/5/19</b> <b>GMB 7/8/19</b>
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**TITLE:** Authorize Chautauqua County State Grant Application and Commitment of Matching Funds for County Complex Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello:

WHEREAS, Chautauqua Lake is an invaluable asset to Chautauqua County but has been designated as an impaired water body and its health and usability are threatened; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) offers state-wide grant funding programs that provide an opportunity to significantly leverage local resources; however, these grant programs are fiercely competitive and require a local match in cash and/or in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 CFAs include the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYS EFC) Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP), which offer state grant funding for innovative water quality related projects and which requires a local match; and

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua County Division of Planning and Community Development (CCDPD), the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance), the Village of Mayville, and the Town of Chautauqua have successfully partnered to procure previous state funding pursuant to Resolution No. 194-17, which produced an engineering study identifying stormwater projects located within the Village of Mayville and Town of Chautauqua that can now be pursued for implementation funding and will have a positive impact on the environmental health of Chautauqua Lake; and

WHEREAS, CCDPD, in partnership with the Alliance, has identified the County Complex Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project from the Mayville-Chautauqua Stormwater Engineering Study for application to the 2019 GIGP grant program, which provides reimbursement for up to 90% of total project costs, as shown in the following table; and

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>NYS CFA Funding Requested</b>	<b>Commitment of County Cash Matching Funds*</b>
County Complex Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project	\$904,254	\$813,828	<b>\$90,426*</b>

\*County Cash Match source from already approved DPF *Mayville Parking Lot Reconstruct* Account

WHEREAS, based on improvements already needed for county complex infrastructure, it is in the best interest of the County to apply for such financial assistance when available; therefore be it

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**APPROVED**  
**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive** **Date**

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is authorized to apply for a New York State Environmental Facilities GIGP grant for funding assistance for the County Complex Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the County shall commit a cash match of \$90,426 in local funding toward the County Complex Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project.

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**APPROVED**

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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

MRG 6-27-19 ABC 7/2/19 KMD 7/2/19 KLC 7/5/19 GMB 7/8/19
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**TITLE:** Authorize Use of 3% Occupancy Tax Undesignated Off-Cycle Project Funding to Construct Educational Kiosks at the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello, County Legislator Mark Odell:

WHEREAS, Chautauqua County’s historic sites, memorials, and other assets are invaluable resources in Chautauqua County that preserve historic artifacts and possessions, provide educational and tourism opportunities, and enhance the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial organization is dedicated to showing appreciation for all veterans in Chautauqua County, including those that sacrificed their lives while serving; and

WHEREAS, there are many past and present members of the military who earned honors and awards, including POWs/MIAs, those who sacrificed their lives while serving, and others who died while not in action; and

WHEREAS, many of these brave soldiers lack a local memorial in their honor and the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial will honor these individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Mayville Cemetery will be the future home of the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial, which will attract people from throughout the region and further afield to honor our brave soldiers; and

WHEREAS, the centerpiece of the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial will be an octagon building constructed with commemorative bricks along with educational kiosks telling the stories of past wars and sacrifice, which will cater to and attract visitors from within and outside of the region to pay tribute to our courageous veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial organization secured donations from the Town of Chautauqua (\$5,000.00), the Village of Mayville (\$8,800.00), and the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation (\$10,000.00), along with funding being provided by a number of private donors; and

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial organization seeks \$8,100.00 (10%) of the \$81,000.00 total project cost from the County to assist in constructing seven (7) educational kiosks that cater to visitors and tourists, which are key tourism-attraction components to this memorial honoring all veterans in Chautauqua County, including those who sacrificed their lives while serving; and

WHEREAS, the balance in the 3% Occupancy Tax Off-Cycle Project budget is \$20,689.00; therefore be it

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**APPROVED**  
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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby authorizes the use of \$8,100.00 from the 3% Occupancy Tax Off-Cycle Project Fund to assist the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial organization in constructing seven (7) educational kiosks for use at the Chautauqua Hometown Heroes Veterans Memorial; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is authorized to establish accounts and enter into any contracts necessary to implement the terms of this resolution.

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**APPROVED**  
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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

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**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

MRG 6-28-19
ABC 7/2/19
KMD 7/2/19
KLC 7/5/19
GMB 7/8/19

**TITLE:** Authorize Use of 3% Occupancy Tax Undesignated Off-Cycle Project Funding to Support Marketing Efforts at the Grape Discover Center in Westfield

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello:

WHEREAS, Chautauqua County's natural assets, including its rich agricultural resources, are invaluable opportunities to enhance the quality of life for Chautauqua County residents while attracting people to the County to spend money; and

WHEREAS, the Grape Discovery Center ("Center") was created in 2014 in Westfield, New York, and attracts approximately 10,000 visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, the Center promotes the agricultural and cultural heritage of the Lake Erie Region and Northern Chautauqua County and conveys the story of how our area grows, harvests, and processes grapes for use in manufactured grape products in four (4) distinct ways:

1. The Center includes an exhibit area that provides interactive and media presentations detailing the history of the region and the process of growing grapes;
2. The Center acts as a starting point for visitors to begin a tour of the Lake Erie Wine Country's wonderful wineries;
3. The retail shop in the Center provides a wide assortment of the area's other products, including gifts, beach glass jewelry, food items, and clothing from local artisans; and
4. The Center hosts special events supporting local animal shelters, agricultural and classic auto shows, parties, events, school visits, social clubs, business meetings, and other gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Center has faced significant challenges in increasing its number of visitors and making the Center self-sustaining; and

WHEREAS, funding from the County will assist the Center in sustaining its operations and keeping its doors open for another season while it executes a new marketing and events strategy, and developing a strategic plan aimed at increasing visitation and revenues over the next several years; and

WHEREAS, the balance in the 3% Occupancy Tax Off-Cycle Project budget is \$20,689.00; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the County Legislature hereby authorizes the use of \$10,000 from the 3% Occupancy Tax Off-Cycle Project budget to assist the Grape Discovery Center to remain sustainable: and be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is authorized to establish accounts and enter into any contracts necessary to implement the terms of this resolution.

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**APPROVED**

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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

MRG 7/8/19
ABC 7/9/19
KMD 7/9/19
KLC 7/9/19
GMB 7/10/19

**TITLE:** Amend Resolution 137-19 - Authorize Use of 3% Occupancy Tax Monies to Support the Chautauqua Lake Pops by the Shore Series in Mayville

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello:

WHEREAS, Chautauqua County's natural assets, especially its lakes, are invaluable settings for hosting events that provide opportunities to enhance the quality of life for Chautauqua County residents while attracting people to the County to spend money; and

WHEREAS, the Bemus Bay Pops series was a very successful event that attracted thousands of people to a waterfront location in Bemus Point to enjoy a series of primarily music-related shows for many years; and

WHEREAS, due to the sale of the Italian Fisherman in February 2018, which owned and leased an adjacent parcel to host the Bemus Bay Pops series, and a decision by the new owners to discontinue the series, the Bemus Bay Pops was discontinued at the Bemus Point location; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Mayville and the original organizers of the Bemus Bay Pops series, Bemus Pops Inc., desire to revive the event, which runs from June through August, in Mayville at a location directly in front of the old rail station building on Village-owned property; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Mayville and Bemus Bay Pops Inc., d/b/a Chautauqua Lake Pops, are currently in urgent need of funding to assist with the up-front costs associated with planning and administering this event; otherwise, it is unlikely that the event will occur at the level planned; and

WHEREAS, Mayville is the County seat, and a gateway for activities to occur on Chautauqua Lake; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact of the Bemus Bay Pops was estimated at over \$10 million a year in the region, as determined by an independent consultant in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the total annual budget for the event is \$450,000, of which approximately \$150,000 has been raised from sponsors to date, with the intent of garnering more financial support through sponsorships and ticket sales; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 139-17, the County Legislature authorized the use of \$10,000 from the 3% Occupancy Tax Reserve for Undesignated Off-Cycle Projects to assist the Chautauqua Lake Pops in holding the Chautauqua Lake Pops by the Shore series of events from June through August 2019 and included the use of the fund balance; and

WHEREAS, use of the fund balance is not necessary when appropriating a portion of the budget for 3% Occupancy Tax Undesignated Off-Cycle Projects; and

WHEREAS, amendments must be made to the ninth WHEREAS clause and the RESOLVED clauses of Resolution 137-19; therefore, be it

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**APPROVED**

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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Legislature amends the ninth WHEREAS clause and the RESOLVED clauses of Resolution 137-19 as follows:

WHEREAS, the ~~fund~~ balance in the 3% Occupancy Tax ~~Reserve for~~ Undesignated Off-Cycle Projects ~~budget~~ ~~Tourism Promotion Fund~~ is \$30,689; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the County Legislature hereby authorizes the use of \$10,000 ~~from~~ the 3% Occupancy Tax ~~Reserve for~~ Undesignated Off-Cycle Projects ~~budget~~ to assist the Chautauqua Lake Pops in holding the Chautauqua Lake Pops by the Shore series of events from June through August 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is authorized to establish accounts and enter into contracts necessary to implement the terms of this resolution. ~~;~~ ~~and be it further~~

~~RESOLVED, That Fund Balance be appropriated as follows:~~

~~INCREASE THE USE OF FUND BALANCE:~~

~~A. . . . .883.0000 — Fund Bal, Rsvd Fund Bal Reserve for Occupancy Tax — \$10,000~~

~~;~~ ~~and be it further~~

~~RESOLVED, That the Director of Finance is authorized and directed to make the following amendments to the 2019 Budget:~~

~~INCREASE APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT:~~

~~A.6420.TOUR.4 — Contractual — Promotion of Industry, Tourism — \$10,000~~

       **APPROVED**  
       **VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

<b>MRG 6-24-19</b>
<b>ABC 6/24/19</b>
<b>SMA 6/24/19</b>
<b>KMD 6/24/19</b>
<b>KLC 6/24/19</b>
<b>GMB 6/24/19</b>

**TITLE:** Authorize Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau as the Local Tourist Promotion Agency for Matching Funds Program Sponsored by New York State Division of Tourism

**BY:** Planning & Economic Development and Audit & Control Committees:

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** County Executive George M. Borrello:

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature has authorized the New York State Department of Commerce to match funds expended by local and regional organizations promoting tourist travel, resorts and vacation businesses in this State; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature has made appropriations for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, to participate in this program, the Chautauqua County Legislature must designate a not-for-profit corporation as the local tourist promotion agency for the Matching Fund Program sponsored by the New York State Division of Tourism; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby designates the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau as the local tourist promotion agency for the Matching Funds Program sponsored by the New York State Division of Tourism and authorizes Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau to make application for matching tourism funds, to receive such matching funds, and to represent the County of Chautauqua in tourism promotion efforts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That in making the aforesaid designation, the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby certifies that the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau has been in operation for at least three (3) years immediately prior to making this year's application; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau comply with the following criteria for implementing the Matching Funds Program:

1. A dedicated bank account shall be maintained for the purposes of matching and disbursing Matching Funds provided by the New York State Division of Tourism and the corresponding local share in accordance with the Program guidelines;
2. All interest earned from the Matching Funds Program monies shall be expended for generic County advertising according to the New York State guidelines for the Program;
3. All discounts and refunds shall be maintained in the Matching Fund program account and shall be expended for generic County advertising according to the Program guidelines; and
4. Account(s) shall be reconciled monthly and at the end of the Program, and the required quarterly and annual reports shall be provided to the New York State Division of Tourism in accordance with the Program guidelines; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau is authorized to apply for state matching funds up to \$250,000 for the state fiscal year from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.

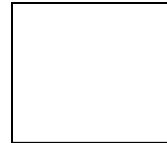
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**APPROVED**

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**VETOES (VETO MESSAGE ATTACHED)**

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**County Executive**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**MOTION NO. \_\_\_-19**



**TITLE:** In Opposition to Construction of Wind Turbine Farms on Lake Erie

**AT THE REQUEST OF:** Legislators Bankoski, Muldowney, Hemmer, Niebel, O’Connell, Odell and Scudder:

WHEREAS, recently the state of Ohio has partnered with private business to construct wind turbines along the shore of Lake Erie with the approval of the federal government and this has spawned discussion in Chautauqua County’s lake front communities over the impact of such development along our coast; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has passed a resolution titled “Opposition to Construction of Wind Turbine Farm on Lake Erie in response to representatives of the Town of Evans meeting with a company looking to install wind turbines in Lake Erie; and

WHEREAS, there are unquestioned benefits to the development of wind farms, including the production of clean energy, creation of an electrical grid that is less reliable on non-renewable resources, and increases in energy sources that are entirely domestic. There are, however, several issues that need to be resolved through extensive environmental impact studies and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that wind turbines inadvertently kill birds and bats especially those with large migratory ranges. The American shore of Lake Erie is an important stopping ground for many migratory birds, including Canadian Geese and ducks, which are important migratory game birds that provide tangible economic value to local communities across New York and Canada. Small migratory birds, like the ruby-throated humming bird, migrate from southern Ontario across the Great Lakes and down to Central America. Even large birds of prey, like the American Bald Eagle, call the Great Lakes their home for a portion of the year; and

WHEREAS, the widespread construction of wind farms not only pose a direct threat to individual animals, but may even alter migratory patterns taking them out of our region altogether. Such a tragedy would impose not just economic losses related to migratory hunting tourism but also decrease the regional biological diversity; and

WHEREAS, the wind farm development taking place in Lake Erie off the shore of Cleveland, Ohio, expects to place a significant number of turbines on the lake itself. Construction of wind turbines on the lake could negatively impact not just migratory birds, but could also impact fishing waters through the destruction of spawning grounds, leaks of hydraulic fluids from the turbines themselves, and creating new physical barriers to fishing vessels; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Erie Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2016 to sustain and protect the waters of Lake Erie, has taken a position in opposition to the wind farm development off the shore of Cleveland, stating “...*the negative environmental effects on Lake Erie, along with economic losses to tourism, spending, jobs, waterfront home values and taxes, appear to outweigh the several hundred jobs that his project claims to create. For these reasons, the Lake Erie Foundation opposes the Icebreaker Windpower, Inc. proposal to build wind turbines in Lake Erie.*”; and

WHEREAS, Lake Erie currently supports the largest commercial fishery in the great lakes, with fish stocks including the American eel, blue pike, carp, lake sturgeon, lake trout, and lake whitefish. Our region has spent much of the latter half of the past century cleaning up local waters following the damage left behind from what are now all but abandoned factories. It would be foolish to rush back down a path that could potentially put such a valuable industry at risk; and

WHEREAS, potential contamination from the construction of wind turbines in Lake Erie could pose a risk to a major drinking water supply to the people of the northern Chautauqua County region that is drawn from Lake Erie at the City of Dunkirk; and

WHEREAS, many property owners consider wind turbines to be an eyesore at best. Waterfront housing is among the highest valued real estate in our region, which generates additional revenue to taxing municipalities and personal wealth for residents. When considering the location for new wind farms along the shores of Lake Erie, or even on the water in the lake, care needs to be taken to limit the impact on sightlines for property owners in the surrounding areas; therefore be it

KNOWN, That the Chautauqua County Legislature, in recognition of the threat posed by significant negative environmental and economic effects, is hereby opposed to the construction of any new wind turbines along the shores of or in Lake Erie; and be it further

KNOWN, That the Chautauqua County Legislature urges the federal government and New York State, prior to any construction of wind farms along the shore of or in Lake Erie, conduct public review of the full environmental impact of the development, as well as engage in extensive debate with residents who live in and around any potential construction site; and be it further

MOVED, That the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Motion to the Western New York delegation to the U.S. Congress, the Western New York delegation to the New York State Senate and Assembly and all others deemed necessary and proper.