

(PLEASE NOTE: Full Resolutions are attached following minutes)

**MINUTES
Herkimer County Legislature
Organizational Session
Monday, January 6, 2014
2:00 p.m.**

The Organizational Session of the Herkimer County Legislature was called to order by Carole L. LaLonde, Clerk of the Legislature at 2:00 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll by district:

Present: District 1 – Martin J. Luppino, Jr.
District 2 – Helen T. Rose
District 3 – Robert J. Schrader
District 4 – Bob Wellington
District 5 – Raymond Johnson
District 6 – John P. Stephens
District 7 – Robert N. Hyde
District 8 – John L. Brezinski
District 9 – Peter F. Manno
District 10 – Raymond Smith
District 11 – Vincent J. Bono
District 12 – Kurt J. Ackerman
District 13 – Bernard Peplinski, Sr.
District 14 – Dennis Korce
District 15 – Patrick E. Russell
District 16 – Frederick J. Shaw, Jr.
District 17 – Bruce Weakley

At this time the Clerk called for nominations of a Temporary Chairman. On motion of Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Ackerman, Legislator Manno was nominated as Temporary Chairman. With no other nominations, Mr. Hyde made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to close nominations.

Legislator Manno was named Temporary Chairman.

Ayes: (17).

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Temporary Chairman Manno called on the purple heart veterans present to lead the Legislature in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Temporary Chairman Manno requested everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence in recognition and honor of all the current and past veterans of Herkimer County.

The Reverend Paul Catena of the Ilion Annunciation Church and Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church gave the invocation.

Temporary Chairman Manno called for a Moment of Silence for deceased members of the Legislature.

At this time, Temporary Chairman Manno called on Honorable George Luther, Town Justice of the Town of Schuyler, to administer the oaths of office. Judge Luther asked the Legislators to stand and repeat the Oath of Office.

At this time, Temporary Chairman Manno called for the election of Chairman of the Legislature for the years 2014-2015. Temporary Chairman Manno opened the nominations. Legislator Russell nominated Vincent J. Bono as Chairman for the 2014-2015 term of the Legislature. The nomination was seconded by Legislators Hyde, Johnson and Smith. With no other nominations, Mr. Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hyde, to close nominations.

Legislator Bono was elected Chairman of the Legislature by the following roll call vote:

For: Luppino, Rose, Schrader, Wellington, Johnson, Stephens, Hyde, Brezinski, Manno, Smith, Ackerman, Peplinski, Korce, Russell, Shaw, Weakley (16).

Against: None. Abstain: Bono (1).

Absent: None.

Legislators Bernard Peplinski and Raymond Smith escorted Chairman Bono to the Chairman's seat. Honorable George Luther administered the Oath of Office to Chairman Bono.

Chairman Bono took the chair, expressed his appreciation for being re-elected as Chairman, welcomed the new legislators and stated his main goal will be to reinforce a positive attitude in our region and our community. (full address is included with the record of minutes of the Legislature).

The Chairman continued by opening the nominations for Vice Chairman. On motion of Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Smith, nomination was made for Legislator Peplinski as Vice Chairman. With no other nominations, Legislator Peplinski was elected Vice Chairman by the following roll call vote:

For: Luppino, Rose, Schrader, Wellington, Johnson, Stephens, Hyde, Brezinski, Manno, Smith, Bono, Ackerman, Korce, Russell, Shaw, Weakley (16).

Against: None. Abstain: Peplinski (1).

Absent: None.

At this time, Chairman Bono opened nominations for Clerk of the Legislature. On motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Luppino, Mr. Hyde and Mr. Brezinski, nomination was made for Carole LaLonde as Clerk of the Legislature. With no other nominations, the Chairman called for a voice vote:

All ayes: (17).

Against: None.

Absent: None.

Mrs. LaLonde thanked the Legislature for the appointment.

Pursuant to Rule 8 of the Rules of the County Legislature, Chairman Bono asked if there were any objections or corrections to the minutes of December 11th and special session on December 30th. Being none, Chairman Bono ordered the minutes approved.

Chairman Bono stated that the communications received by the Legislature and the committees to which they were referred were listed on the agenda and asked if any member of the Legislature requested mention of any particular communication. Mr. Smith requested Communication No. 2 be read.

No. 1 – A communication was received from the Director of the Real Property Tax Service Agency requesting approval for Auditor to process refunds and corrections under \$2,500. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

No. 2 – A communication was received from the Republican Legislators naming Patrick Russell as Majority Leader. Placed on file.

No. 3 – A communication was received from the Director of Real Property Tax Service Agency requested an order to correct taxes in the Town of Little Falls. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

No. 4 – A communication was received from the Chairman of the Legislature designating committee assignments for the 2014-2015 term of the Legislature. Placed on file.

With that being all the communications, the Chairman continued with Reports and Resolutions beginning with No. 1.

On motion of Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Peplinski, Resolution No. 1 adopting the Rules of the Legislature was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

Ayes: (17).

Against: None.

Absent: None.

Absent: None.

On motion of Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Luppino, Resolution No. 7 designating The Evening Telegram and The Evening Times as the official newspapers of the County of Herkimer was handed up; voted on and adopted by voice vote:

Ayes: (17).

Against: None.

Absent: None.

On motion of Mr. Russell and a request for unanimous consent, seconded by Mr. Korce, Resolution No. 8 of the Committee on Ways and Means issuing order correcting taxes for the year 2014 in the Town of Little Falls, was handed up; voted on and adopted by roll call vote:

For: Luppino, Rose, Schrader, Wellington, Johnson, Stephens, Hyde, Brezinski, Manno, Smith, Bono, Ackerman, Peplinski, Korce, Russell, Shaw, Weakley (17).

Against: None.

Absent: None.

Chairman Bono then proceeded with the session to allow for a presentation and called upon Legislator Brezinski. He recognized Mr. Kenneth Griffin. A Purple Heart recipient, and his daughter who displayed and explained the Legion of Honor Chevalier award that Mr. Griffin received from the French government in recognition for his service during World War II. Mr. Brezinski then introduced the members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Mr. Brezinski gave some background on the presentation and introduced Mr. Tim Trainor whose business had designed the Purple Heart County highway sign which would be unveiled. Mr. Trainor stated this was a way for his company to give back and said it was a team effort. Mr. Brezinski called upon Mr. Ken Griffin and Mr. Joe Fraccola to unveil the sign. Mr. Fraccola presented a plaque from the Military Order of the Purple Heart to Trainor Associates in appreciation for their design. Mr. Brezinski stated with the help of the County Highway Department these signs will be placed at all entrances to the County. Mr. Brezinski then presented a proclamation to Mr. Trainor and asked Legislator Russell, whose father was a Purple Heart recipient, to read the proclamation.

At 2:37 p.m., on motion of Mr. Manno, seconded by Mr. Stephens and Mr. Hyde, this Session of the Herkimer County Legislature was adjourned to Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Carole LaLonde, Clerk

