
STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY

THE MINUTES

of a Special Meeting of the Schenectady County Legislature held
January 2, 2024 5:30 p.m. at Legislative Chambers Schenectady
County Office Building, 620 State Street, Schenectady, New York

January 2, 2024

Organizational Meeting

The invocation was given by the Clerk of the Legislature.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Legislator Jasenski.

Call to Order

The Organizational Meeting of 2024 was called to order by the Clerk of the Schenectady County Legislature, Geoffrey T. Hall.

Roll Call

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: 13 (Fields, Ruzzo, Pratt, McGill, Samuel, Frisoni, Hess,
 Patierne, Ostrelch, Vellano, Hughes, Gatta, Jasenski)
Absent: 0
Excused: 2 (Constantine, Cuomo)
Vacant: 0

Designations of Majority Leader and Minority Leader

The Clerk read the certificates filed by the Democratic Caucus designating Legislator Richard Patierne as Majority Leader for the 2024-2025 legislative sessions, and the certificate filed by the Republican Caucus designating Eric Hess as Minority Leader for the 2024-2025 legislative sessions.

Legislator Patierne was then duly sworn in as Majority Leader, with the Oath of Office being administered by Judge Hoffman.

Mr. Patierne made brief inaugural remarks.

Legislator Hess was sworn in as Minority Leader, with the Oath of Office being administered by Yvonne Cleveland.

Mr. Hess made brief inaugural remarks.

Election of Chair

The Clerk opened the floor to nominations for Chair of the Schenectady County Legislature.

Legislator Jasenski rose to nominate Legislator Gary Hughes. Legislator Fields seconded the nomination.

Seeing no other nominations, the Clerk called the roll for the election of Chair of the Legislature.

Gary Hughes received thirteen votes (Fields, Ruzzo, Pratt, McGill, Samuel, Frisoni, Hess, Patierne, Ostrelch, Vellano, Hughes, Gatta, Jasenski)

Legislators Constantine and Cuomo were not present and marked as excused.

Chairman Hughes was sworn in as Chair of the Legislature.

Chairman Hughes offered brief inaugural remarks.

Election of Vice Chair

Chairman Hughes opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Legislature.

Legislator Ostrelch rose to nominate Legislator Gatta for Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Legislator Frisoni.

Seeing no further nominations, the Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the election of a Vice Chair.

Legislator Gatta received thirteen votes (Fields, Ruzzo, Pratt, McGill, Samuel, Frisoni, Hess, Patierne, Ostrelch, Vellano, Hughes, Gatta, Jasenski)

Legislators Constantine and Cuomo were not present and marked as excused.

The Clerk announced that Legislator Gatta was elected Vice Chair of the Legislature.

Vice Chair Gatta was sworn in as Vice Chair of the Legislature with Hon. Paul Tonko, United States Congressman, administering the Oath of Office.

Mrs. Gatta offered brief inaugural remarks.

Designation of Deputy Chair

The Chair then instructed the Clerk to read the Certificate appointing the Hon. Philip Fields as Deputy Chairperson of the Schenectady County Legislature.

Legislator Fields was sworn in as Deputy Chairperson with Hon. Paul Tonko, United States Congressman, administering the Oath of Office.

Mr. Fields offered brief inaugural remarks.

Action on Resolutions

The Legislature then turned to the proposed Resolutions on the Agenda:

Chairman Hughes spoke in favor of Resolution 1-24.

Legislator Fields spoke in favor of Resolution 1-24.

Legislator McGill spoke in favor of Resolution 1-24.

RESOLUTION 1-24

Sponsored by the Committee on Rules:

A RESOLUTION CONTINUING THE APPOINTMENT OF GEOFFREY T. HALL AS CLERK OF THE SCHENECTADY COUNTY LEGISLATURE

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, as follows:

WHEREAS, Section 2.07 of Article II of the Schenectady County Charter places the authority of appointment of the Clerk of the Schenectady County Legislature with members of the Schenectady County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey T. Hall has demonstrated the ability to perform the duties of Clerk of the Schenectady County Legislature with talent and distinction; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Schenectady County Legislature, and the County of Schenectady as a whole, to continue the appointment of Geoffrey T. Hall as Clerk of the Schenectady County Legislature; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Schenectady County Legislature hereby continues the appointment of Geoffrey T. Hall as Clerk of the Schenectady County Legislature.

1/2/2024: *Reported from the Committee on Rules (R1)*

1/2/2024: *Adopted by the County Legislature*

Ayes: 13.0903 (Fields, Frisoni, Gatta, Hess, Hughes, Jasenski,
McGill, Ostrellich, Pratt, Patierne, Ruzzo,
Samuel, Vellano)

Nays: 0.0000

Absent: 0.0000

Abstain: 0.0000

Excused: 1.9097 (Constantine, Cuomo)

Legislator Fields spoke in favor of Resolution 2-24.

Legislator McGill spoke in favor of Resolution 2-24.

Legislator Gatta spoke in favor of Resolution 2-24.

Legislator Ruzzo spoke in favor of Resolution 2-24.

RESOLUTION 2-24

Sponsored by the Committee on Rules:

A RESOLUTION CONTINUING THE APPOINTMENT OF RORY FLUMAN AS SCHENECTADY COUNTY MANAGER

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, as follows:

WHEREAS, subdivision 10 of section 2.11 of Article II of the Schenectady County Charter places the authority of the appointment of the Schenectady County Manager with the members of the Schenectady County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Rory Fluman has demonstrated that he has the executive and administrative abilities to perform the duties of Schenectady County Manager and to supervise the County Departments, Offices, Agencies and Administrative Units; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Schenectady County Legislature, and the County of Schenectady as a whole, to continue the appointment of Rory Fluman as Schenectady County Manager; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Schenectady County Legislature hereby continues the appointment of Rory Fluman as the Schenectady County Manager to serve during the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025.

1/2/2024: *Reported from the Committee on Rules (R2)*

1/2/2024: *Adopted by the County Legislature*

Ayes:	13.0903	(Fields, Frisoni, Gatta, Hess, Hughes, Jasenski, McGill, Ostrelich, Pratt, Patierne, Ruzzo, Samuel, Vellano)
Nays:	0.0000	
Absent:	0.0000	
Abstain:	0.0000	
Excused:	1.9097	(Constantine, Cuomo)

Legislator Fields spoke in favor of Resolution 3-24.

Legislator Ostrelich spoke in favor of Resolution 3-24.

RESOLUTION 3-24

Sponsored by the Committee on Rules:

A RESOLUTION CONTINUING THE APPOINTMENT OF JULIE B. MCDONNELL AS THE COUNTY AUDITOR

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, as follows:

WHEREAS, section 5.2.1 of the Rules of Order and Procedure of the Schenectady County Legislature provides that the Schenectady County Legislature shall appoint a County Auditor at its organizational meeting; and

WHEREAS, Julie B. McDonnell has demonstrated the abilities to perform the duties of County Auditor with talent and distinction; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Schenectady County Legislature, and the County of Schenectady as a whole, to continue the appointment of Julie B. McDonnell as County Auditor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Schenectady County Legislature hereby continues the appointment of Julie B. McDonnell as County Auditor.

1/2/2024: *Reported from the Committee on Rules (R3)*

1/2/2024: *Adopted by the County Legislature*

Ayes:	13.0903	(Fields, Frisoni, Gatta, Hess, Hughes, Jasenski, McGill, Ostrelich, Pratt, Patierne, Ruzzo, Samuel, Vellano)
Nays:	0.0000	
Absent:	0.0000	
Abstain:	0.0000	

Excused: 1.9097 (Constantine, Cuomo)

RESOLUTION 4-24

Sponsored by the Committee on Rules:

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF
THE COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY**

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, as follows:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the provisions of section 214 of the County Law and section 2.13 of Article II of the Schenectady County Charter, the Daily Gazette is hereby designated as the official newspaper for the publication of all local laws, notices and other matters required by law to be published for the 2024 and 2025 calendar years.

1/2/2024: *Reported from the Committee on Rules (R4)*

1/2/2024: *Adopted by the County Legislature*

Ayes: 13.0903 (Fields, Frisoni, Gatta, Hess, Hughes, Jasenski,
McGill, Ostrellich, Pratt, Patierne, Ruzzo,
Samuel, Vellano)

Nays: 0.0000

Absent: 0.0000

Abstain: 0.0000

Excused: 1.9097 (Constantine, Cuomo)

RESOLUTION 5-24

Sponsored by the Committee on Rules:

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENTS OF VARIOUS
PERSONS TO THE POSITION OF CHAPLAIN AT THE GLENDALE
NURSING FACILITY**

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, as follows:

WHEREAS, the County of Schenectady has the need to appoint citizens to provide invaluable service to our community; and

WHEREAS, the County Manager has recommended that the following persons be appointed to the position of Chaplain at the Glendale Nursing Facility for a term extending until December 31, 2025, to wit:

Rabbi Matthew Cutler

Reverend Dwight Moore
Pastor Arnetta Dix
Reverend Stephen Yusko

; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the aforesaid appointments by the County Manager be and they hereby are confirmed and approved.

1/2/2024: Reported from the Committee on Rules (R5)

1/2/2024: Adopted by the County Legislature

Ayes: 13.0903 (Fields, Frisoni, Gatta, Hess, Hughes, Jasenski,
McGill, Ostrelich, Pratt, Patierne, Ruzzo,
Samuel, Vellano)

Nays: 0.0000

Absent: 0.0000

Abstain: 0.0000

Excused: 1.9097 (Constantine, Cuomo)

Adjournment

On the motion of Legislator Gatta, seconded by Legislator Fields, the Legislature adjourned without objection.