

**THE HONORABLE BODY
Council Chambers
Municipal Building
North Tonawanda, New York 14120
Tuesday, January 6, 2026
6:30 P.M.**

REGULAR SESSION CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT RICHARDS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: **President Richards**
Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey

Absent: **None**

Also Present: **Mayor Austin J. Tylec**
City Attorney Edward Zebulske III

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

I.1 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Reappointment to the North Tonawanda Zoning Board of Appeals

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Jacob Haacker, 604 Meadow Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 1420 to the North Tonawanda Zoning Board of Appeals, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of five (5) years, expiring December 31, 2030.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

I.2 Mayor**December 31, 2025**

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Appointments to the North Tonawanda Waterfront Commission

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing the following individuals for the following terms on the Waterfront Commission:

1. **Emily Root, 425 Wheatfield St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, and expiring December 31, 2027.**
2. **James Hutton, 730 Niagara Parkway, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, and expiring December 31, 2027.**
3. **Larry Young, 837 Fairmont Ave, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, expiring December 31, 2027.**

Additionally, I am appointing these individuals for the following terms:

1. **Mary Martin, 949 Sweeney St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, and expiring December 31, 2027, to replace Joseph Petrie.**
2. **Nick DiNardo, 221 Schenck St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years expiring on December 31, 2027, to replace Gabby Richards.**

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

**MOVED by Alderman Schulmeister SECONDED by Alderman Murphy
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the following reappointments to the Waterfront Commission:**

1. **Emily Root, 425 Wheatfield St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, and expiring December 31, 2027.**
2. **James Hutton, 730 Niagara Parkway, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, and expiring December 31, 2027.**
3. **Larry Young, 837 Fairmont Ave, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, expiring December 31, 2027.**

And the appointments of:

1. **Mary Martin, 949 Sweeney St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years, and expiring December 31, 2027, to replace Joseph Petrie.**
2. **Nick DiNardo, 221 Schenck St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of two (2) years expiring on December 31, 2027, to replace Gabby Richards.**

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards

(5)

Nays: None

(0)

CARRIED.

I.3 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Appointments to the North Tonawanda Traffic Safety Committee

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing the following individuals to the Traffic Safety Committee, Joseph Sikora, 522 Homestead Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, Robert Frank, 216 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 and Matthew Meisenburg, 411 Homestead Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, serving as Board Chairman, effective January 1, 2026 for terms of two (2) years, expiring December 31, 2027.

Additionally, I am appointing Richard Hall, 920 East Robinson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027 and Robert Orlowski, 598 Meadowbrook Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as a liaison with emergency management without compensation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

MOVED by Alderman Lavey **SECONDED** by Alderman Roe
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointments of:

1. Joseph Sikora, 522 Homestead Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 for a term of two (2) years effective January 1, 2026, and expiring December 31, 2027.
2. Robert Frank, 216 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 for a term of two (2) years effective January 1, 2026, and expiring December 31, 2027.
3. Matthew Meisenburg, 411 Homestead Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, also serving as Board Chairman, for a term of two (2) years effective January 1, 2026, and expiring December 31, 2027.

And appointments of:

1. Richard Hall, 920 East Robinson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 for a two (2) year term effective January 1, 2026, and expiring December 31, 2027,
2. Richard Orlowski, 598 Meadowbrook Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as a liaison with the emergency management without compensation.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards
Nays: None

I.4 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Appointments to the Plumbing Board

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am appointing Robert Fleishman, 7246 Ward Road North Tonawanda, NY 14120 and William Petty, 5843 Meahl Road, Lockport, NY 14092 to the Plumbing Board effective January 1, 2026, for terms of two (2) years, expiring December 31, 2027. Additionally, Gary Flanders, 70 Syracuse St., Tonawanda, NY 14150, will complete the term expiring December 31, 2026, vacated by Joseph Liberto.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Roe **SECONDED by Alderman Schulmeister**
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the appointments of Robert Fleishman, 7246 Ward Road North Tonawanda, NY 14120 and William Petty, 5843 Meahl Road, Lockport, NY 14092 to the Plumbing Board effective January 1, 2026, for terms of two (2) years, expiring December 31, 2027, and Gary Flanders, 70 Syracuse St., Tonawanda, NY 14150, will complete the term expiring December 31, 2026, vacated by Joseph Liberto

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

I.5 Mayor

December 31, 2025

North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Reappointment to the North Tonawanda Planning Commission

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Peter Grinnell, 565 Chestnut St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 to the North Tonawanda Planning Commission, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of seven (7) years, expiring December 31, 2032.

Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Schulmeister **SECONDED by Alderman Lavey**
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of Peter Grinnell, 565 Chestnut St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 to the North Tonawanda Planning Commission, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of seven (7) years, expiring December 31, 2032.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

I.6 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Reappointment of Housing Authority Board

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Suzanne Hempel, 234 Falconer Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, to the Housing Authority effective February 1, 2026, for a five (5) year term, expiring January 31, 2031.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

I.7 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Appointment to Historic Preservation Commission

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised I will be appointing Kelley Culp-Burton, 211 Main St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, to the Historic Preservation Commission, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of four (4) years, expiring December 31, 2029.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

MOVED by Alderman Roe **SECONDED by Alderman Schulmeister**
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the appointment of Kelley Culp-Burton, 211 Main St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, to the Historic Preservation Commission, effective January 1, 2026, for a term of four (4) years, expiring December 31, 2029.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

I.8 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Appointment of City Cemetery Board Members

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing the following members to the City Cemetery Board:

1. Stacy Yaro, 154 Christiana St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027
2. Linda Krempa, 1406 Lexington Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027.

Additionally, I am appointing Stephanie McCowen, 78 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

MOVED by Alderman Lavey SECONDED by Alderman Roe
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of the following
members to the City Cemetery Board:

1. Stacy Yaro, 154 Christiana St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027
2. Linda Krempa, 1406 Lexington Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027.

And the appointment of Stephanie McCowen, 78 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 effective January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2027.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

I.9 Mayor

December 31, 2025

**North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Reappointment of Bingo Commissioner

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Fern Lew, 361 Walck Rd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as the North Tonawanda City Bingo Commissioner, effective January 1, 2026, for a one (1) year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Schulmeister SECONDED by Alderman Roe
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of Fern Lew, 361 Walck Rd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as the North Tonawanda City Bingo Commissioner, effective January 1, 2026, for a one (1) year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

I.10 Mayor

December 31, 2025

North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Reappointment to the Board of Assessment Review Committee

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Peter Mancuso, 794 Deerfield Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 to the Board of Assessment Review Committee, effective October 1, 2025, for a term of five (5) years, until September 30, 2030.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Lavey SECONDED by Alderman Schulmeister
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of Peter Mancuso, 794 Deerfield Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 to the Board of Assessment Review Committee, effective October 1, 2025, for a term of five (5) years, until September 30, 2030.
Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

I.11 Mayor

December 31, 2025

North Tonawanda Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Reappointment of City Historian

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Susan Taylor, 451 Goundry St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as City Historian, effective January 1, 2026, for a one (1) year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Roe **SECONDED by Alderman Lavey**
 That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of Susan Taylor,
 451 Goundry St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as City Historian, effective January 1, 2026,
 for a one (1) year term, expiring December 31, 2026.
 Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
 Nays: None (0)
 CARRIED.

I.12 Mayor

December 31, 2025

North Tonawanda Common Council
 City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
 North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Reappointment of City Market Clerk

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Christian Delprince, 800 Thomas Fox Dr. West, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as the North Tonawanda City Market Clerk, effective January 1, 2026, for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2026.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Roe **SECONDED by Alderman Schulmeister**
 That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of Christian Delprince, 800 Thomas Fox Dr. West, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as the North Tonawanda City Market Clerk, effective January 1, 2026, for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2026.
 Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
 Nays: None (0)
 CARRIED.

I.13 Mayor

December 31, 2025

North Tonawanda Common Council
 City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
 North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Appointment to Land Bank Board of Directors

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am reappointing Robert DePaolo, 4388 Purdy Road, Lockport, NY 14094 to the Land Bank Board of Directors, effective January 1, 2026, for a one (1) year term, expiring December 31, 2026.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Respectfully,
Austin Tylec
Mayor**

MOVED by Alderman Lavey **SECONDED by Alderman Schulmeister**
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the reappointment of Robert DePaolo,
4388 Purdy Road, Lockport, NY 14094 to the Land Bank Board of Directors, effective
January 1, 2026, for a two (2) year term, expiring December 31, 2027.

***Term of appointment was amended on the floor from a one (1) year term to a two (2) year term.**

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

VII. Accountant

December 30, 2025

**Honorable Austin J. Tylec, Mayor
and Common Council
City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda NY 14120**

Dear Honorable Body:

In accordance with Article V, Division 1, Section 5.002 and 5.003 of the City Charter, an Abstract Sheet, comprised of a Warrant of Claims, has been submitted by this office for your review and approval.

Accordingly, please authorize for payment the current Warrant of Claims for Common Council audit, dated January 6th, 2026, and further authorize the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant.

**Warm regards,
Jeffrey R. Zellner
City Accountant**

01	General Fund	\$938,292.73
02	Water Fund	\$93,708.91
04	Sewer Fund	\$134,320.87
06	Capital Project Fund	\$488,916.58
07	Trust & Agency Fund	<u>\$17,247.03</u>
00	Final Total	\$1,672,486.12

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

XIV. Youth, Recreation, Parks & Seniors

December 12, 2025

**Honorable Mayor Tylec
And Common Council
216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

On behalf of the NT Parks & Recreation Department I am requesting that you review and pass the attached resolution which allows us to move forward with a desirable enhancement project at the Botanical Gardens (1825 Sweeney Street).

North Tonawanda Botanical Gardens Organization (NTBGO) was able to secure grant funds in the amount of \$98,000 (engineering of all 3 phases) from the Niagara River Greenway Commission which paired with an existing grant of \$99,580 from NYSDECEJ (construction) will bring to fruition the front entrance and boat launch access portion of Phase 1 of the Green Infrastructure Project. We have worked closely with NTBGO in supporting, coordinating and planning this project.

The Greenway funds are reimbursable in full only after project completion (Fall of 2026). The NYSDEC/EJ funds can only be used for construction; and therefore, there is a need for the City to front the cost of the engineering which will be reimbursed through the grant award at the end of project completion.

NTBGO, as a project lead, sent out a request for proposals solicited to reputable Civil Engineering Firms and all proposals were reviewed by a committee (including our City Engineer and myself), with an award going to Nussbaumer and Clarke for services of \$84,000 (under the projected cost and grant amount awarded).

Sincerely,
Alex Domaradzki
Dir. Youth, Recreation, Parks & Seniors

XVII. Traffic Safety

December 19, 2025

**Donna Braun
216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Traffic Safety Minutes:

The December meeting of the North Tonawanda Traffic Safety Committee was called to order at 1800 hours. Roll call showed the following members present: M. Meisenburg, R. Frank, M. Lemke, J. Sikora, N. Ferguson, M. Nalbone, and R. Brennan. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted, the following new concerns/requests were discussed, and recommendations made.

1. Request for terrace parking permit for 3 vehicles at 665 Oliver St. The committee reviewed the site and denied the request.
2. Request for terrace parking permit for 2 vehicles at 245 Payne Ave. The committee reviewed the site and denied the request. At the site there is an abandoned vehicle that needs to be removed which will give them 2 parking spaces.

3. Request for terrace parking permit for 1 vehicle at 272 Robinson. The committee reviewed the site and agreed with the request. At the site there is no garage with a very small and narrow driveway.
4. Request for terrace parking permit for 2 vehicles at 667 Oliver St. The committee reviewed the site and denied the request. The driveway can fit 4 to 5 vehicles, so the residents must just coordinate their parking.

The next Traffic Safety meeting will be held on January 19th, 2026.

Travel safely!

Matthew R. Meisenburg

MOVED by Alderman Lavey **SECONDED** by Alderman Schulmeister
That the Common Council hereby approves Traffic Safety recommendation #3 and
receives and files the Traffic Safety minutes from their December meeting.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

XXXII. Dir. Community Development

December 22, 2025

**Honorable Mayor and Common Council
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

Re: Appointment to Limber City Development Corporation Board of Directors

Dear Honorable Body:

Lumber City Development Corporation (LCDC) is a not-for-profit organization which performs economic development tasks in cooperation with the City of North Tonawanda. Per LCDC by-laws, the City of North Tonawanda Common Council may appoint one (1) member of the Council to a seat on the LCDC Board of Directors. This seat was last held by Alderman Rober Schmiegel.

I hereby respectfully request this Honorable Body to appoint one member to sit on the Lumber City Development Corporation Board of Directors.

**Sincerely,
Laura K. Wilson
Dir. Community Development**

MOVED by Alderman Richards **SECONDED** by Alderman Schulmeister
That the Common Council hereby motioned to appoint Alderman Hilary Roe to the
Lumber City Development Corporation (LCDC) Board of Directors.

Ayes: Alderman Schulmeister, Roe, Murphy, Lavey, Richards (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - None

* Alderman Schulmeister submitted a letter to the Common Council at closing arguments to file on public record regarding the City Attorney's Office.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Alderman Roe **SECONDED by Alderman Schulmeister**
That this regular session of the Common Council be and hereby is adjourned.
CARRIED.

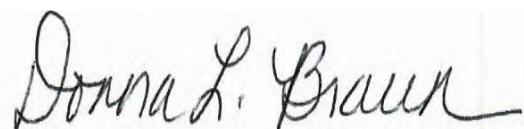
Time of Adjournment: 6:56 P.M.

MOVED by Alderman Lavey **SECONDED by Alderman Roe**
For the Common Council to go into an Executive Session.
CARRIED.

MOVED by Alderman Lavey **SECONDED by Alderman Roe**
For the Common Council to go out of the Executive Session.
CARRIED.

Time of adjournment: 7:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Braun
City Clerk-Treasurer