

GA

98. By Council President Zeisz seconded by Councilmember Gilbert

Whereas, the Erie County Advisory Committee on Reapportionment is currently working on recommendations for a new eleven (11) member reapportionment plan for the newly reduced in size Erie County Legislature; and

Whereas, it has long been the public policy of the State of New York, in matters of drawing district lines for legislative districts at the state and county level to maintain the integrity of the municipal boundaries of towns whenever possible; and

Whereas, under the provisions of New York State Municipal Home Rule Law, Section 10 (1), in drawing such districts, no town whose population is less than 110 % of the population of an average Legislative district (i.e. 83,549 in Erie County this year) shall be divided between districts; and

Whereas, while the prohibition on the division of towns of a certain size as contained in MHRL Section 10 (1), does not apply legally to cities of any size the same policy and good government rationale exists for not dividing small cities between county legislative districts; and

Whereas, the 2010 population of the City of Tonawanda being 15,130 a number well below the size of an average county legislature district; and

Whereas, the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Tonawanda will be better served if the public policy of maintaining the integrity of municipal boundaries is preserved in drawing the lines for the 2011 Erie Legislative district plan; and

Whereas, the residents of the City of Tonawanda will be best served and represented, knowing they have a single representative in the Erie County Legislature, who can respond to their inquiries and best represent them in county issues of local importance; and

Whereas, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Tonawanda will also be better able to communicate with the Erie County Legislature on matters of local concern to the City of Tonawanda with a single legislator representing the entire City of Tonawanda, now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Council of the City of Tonawanda does hereby request, on behalf of the City of Tonawanda that any 2011 redistricting plan for the Erie County Legislature does ensure that the City of Tonawanda shall be wholly contained within a single county legislative district; and be it further,

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution shall be immediately communicated to the Erie County Citizens Advisory Commission on Reapportionment and to the Erie County Legislature for consideration in the upcoming deliberations on the Legislative Reapportionment Plan for 2011.

Ayes: Gilbert, Boyle, Poole, Zeisz

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

04/19/2011 Mtg.

11M-6