

Investing in *Our* Future



Lackawanna
County

Commissioners

Patrick M. O'Malley • Jerry Notarianni • Laureen A. Cummings

Budget Message – Commissioner Jerry Notarianni

Families continue to face difficult times in managing their budgets and other necessary commitments.

It is my intent to not add additional concerns to our residents. I am committed to a sound, balanced fiscal plan that provides the programs the community needs in a cost-effective manner with the staff that we have in place. We cannot afford to add to our workforce in a haphazard fashion at the expense of our bottom-line, and we cannot continue to spend frivolously on unnecessary goods or services.

We must also safeguard the future of our employees by funding the pension plan. Over the past few years, we have not provided any pension contributions. Continuing this pattern will have a debilitating impact on both the fiscal operation of the County and the retirement “nest egg” of our staff.

If families and businesses can do more with less, so can we; and we must. That’s imperative.

As a small business owner, I know what it means to monitor costs, spending and revenue when you have to pay employees and keep your doors open. That is the same formula I want to use in running the County.

County government is a business and must be run as one. My commitment is to our residents – the young and the elderly. It is crucial that we spend your tax dollars wisely on our services that will have an impact on our economy, spark growth within the communities up and down our valley, and help people with their personal needs.

A great deal of time, effort and thought went into the 2019 budget process. I want to thank the Revenue & Finance Department for its work along with all the staff who participated in the process.

Currently, we are still incorporating changes to close a \$2 million budget gap. I do not support any spending plan unless it is sound and works for everyone’s needs. We cannot estimate or hide costs; they must be solid, workable figures.

I pledge my commitment to managing your tax dollars wisely, and I appreciate your support of Lackawanna County.

Thank you.

This Budget Message is respectfully submitted this 15th day of October 2018 pursuant to Section 1.12-1203 of the Lackawanna County Home Rule Charter.
