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January 4, 2010

## KIEDROWSKI TO LEAVE BOARD OF ELECTIONS POST WILL SERVE NORTH TONAWANDA AS CLERK-TREASURER

NORTH TONAWANDA—Niagara County Elections Commissioner Scott P. Kiedrowski will leave that post to help govern his hometown of North Tonawanda.

The Republican elections commissioner made the decision to depart the Niagara County Board of Elections after meeting with newly-inaugurated North Tonawanda Mayor Rob Ortt and city aldermen Saturday. The city leaders asked Kiedrowski to help them govern the Lumber City by filling the office vacated by Ortt's election as mayor.

City officials decided to act quickly to fill the post, appointing Kiedrowski at Monday's organizational meeting. Kiedrowski was subsequently sworn in, although he won't officially begin as clerk-treasurer until Jan. 11. In the meantime, he'll be helping the Board of Elections with its transition. Deputy Elections Commissioner Mary Ann Casamento is expected to be named to fill the Elections post now held by Kiedrowski.

"It was a difficult decision," Kiedrowski said after being sworn into his new post. "I was asked to consider this post, and it was a long, drawn-out thought process for my wife and me. I truly enjoyed my time with Niagara County as elections commissioner, however this is a wonderful opportunity to start a new chapter in my life."

Kiedrowski said the decision carried a lot of emotional weight after more than eight years in county government.

"Leaving the county is a sad thing. I made a lot of friendships and I've done a lot of good things, I think," Kiedrowski said, noting steps he had taken with Elections staff to seamlessly transition the county to new, federally-mandated electronic voting machine had been the "paramount peak of my service."

Kiedrowski will bring his eight years leading the bi-partisan elections office, as well as time on the North Tonawanda Common Council and as a director of Western Region Off-Track Betting, where he oversaw a budget exceeding \$70 million, to his new post as the city's chief fiscal officer and chief administrator.

"It's bittersweet. There've been a lot of ups and downs," Kiedrowski said, standing outside what will soon be his City Hall office. "The county's been very good to me, and I think I've been very good to them."

Kiedrowski said he had one hope as he embarks on his new duties.

"I've enjoyed the support from both Republicans and Democrats all these years, and I hope to have that continued support here in North Tonawanda as we move forward," he said.

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