Fleet Management Review Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME:	May 30, 2024 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION:	KL Binder Library, 6 th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
PRESIDING OFFICER:	Chair Maloney
LEGISLATIVE STAFF:	Michael Tierney, Legislative Service Specialist
PRESENT:	Chair Maloney, Legislators Hewitt, Levine, Litts, Stewart & Former
	Legislator Petit
ABSENT:	Legislator Roberts
QUORUM PRESENT:	Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES:	Deputy County Executive Amanda LaValle, Deputy Comptroller Charles Dinstuhl, Director of Employee Relations Jim Farina (UC Personnel)

Chair Maloney called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

Approval of the April 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion No. 1	Motion to APPROVE the Minutes of the April 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes
Motion By:	Laura Petit
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Hewitt
Voting In Favor:	Chair Maloney, Legislators Hewitt, Levine, Litts, Stewart and Laura Petit
Voting Against:	0
Abstention:	0
Disposition:	MINUTES APPROVED

Chair Maloney questioned the approval process for take-home vehicles.

Chair Maloney wondered if same individuals are on the same call.

Chair Maloney suggested using GPS to track vehicle weekend usage and suggested implanting regular vehicle usage check to deter misuse.

Laura Petit suggested to keep track of mileage by keeping detailed books, for example: before each trip, driver records start mileage, where they are going and the return mileage.

Deputy County Executive LaValle and Jim Farina stated that all county employees driving vehicles are subject to drug and alcohol testing after an accident.

Chair Maloney was wondering how the investigators in Dutchess County manage to do the job without a take home vehicle.

Chair Maloney questioned take-home vehicles for DPW employees, citing policy violations.

Chair Maloney discussed taking away vehicles from employees, citing past practices and legal advice.

Chair Maloney requested evidence of commute mileage impact on salary negotiations.

Legislator Litts discussed on-call schedules for highway maintenance leaders and bridge crews.

Legislator Litts questioned how DPW assigns road maintenance leaders to calls. Legislator Litts believes that if a road maintenance leader is on call, they should be able to take the vehicle home.

Chair Maloney said that Supervisors decide whether to take calls, sometimes prioritizing proximity to their homes.

Chair Maloney: DPW employees face frustration with call-out system, overtime pay.

Legislator Litts believes it would be worth the effort to get a copy of the New York State Department of Transportation's on-call policy, which provides on-call pay to certain employees.

Chair Maloney expressed concern about budgeting for vehicles and equipment, citing lack of information on specific vehicles and fluctuating capital plan.

Deputy County Executive LaValle and Charles Dinstuhl explained that capital plan is in a separate fund, not budgeted for, and fluctuates yearly, while Chair Maloney seeks more information on specific vehicles.

Legislator Stewart asked who determines when a vehicle needs to be replaced? Based on mileage or the year of the model? Fleet manager provided a list of vehicles to be replaced, including DA and DSS vehicles with over 100,000 miles.

Committee members discussed law enforcement vehicles, including Dodge Durangos for sheriff patrol and canine units.

Chair Maloney suggested including more detailed information in resolutions to avoid costly mistakes.

Chair Maloney discussed take-home vehicles for department heads in DPW, with Legislator Stewart expressed concerns about hierarchy and unfairness.

Deputy County Executive LaValle acknowledged the county executive's desire to address take-home vehicles but emphasizes the need for a different approach that considers union negotiation perspectives.

Committee members seek information from sheriff's department and district attorney's office, with no response from them.

Chair Maloney and Legislator Stewart discussed the use of county-owned vehicles for commuting and the need for minimum out calls.

They plan to make recommendations to save money and improve morale by reducing unnecessary vehicle use.

Chair Maloney questioned the accuracy of past vehicle usage numbers.

Committee members debated the use of take-home vehicles for DA and investigators.

Committee members discussed purchasing electric vehicles for the county fleet, with concerns about take-home vehicles and FDA compliance.

Legislator Maloney suggested postponing take-home vehicles.

Legislator Litts explained that even without a take-home vehicle, some employees still need to drive to job sites.

Chair Maloney and Legislator Litts discussed replacing vehicles in the town's fleet, with Chair Maloney suggesting postponing approval to review procurement policies.

Legislator Litts expressed concern about pushing resolutions too far into the future, potentially delaying vehicle acquisition.

Chair Maloney expressed dissatisfaction with the information gathered during the process but something that could be improved.

Laura Petit questioned the need for large vehicles in the department, preferring downsizing.

Deputy County Executive LaValle suggested using IRS guidance on fringe benefits for commuting mileage.

Legislators discussed threshold for applying fringe benefit for taking home vehicles.

Vendors may be driving county vehicles, potentially violating policies, and the comptroller's office may deny payment for such purchases.

Chair Maloney suspects non-county employee drove county vehicle without approval.

Legislator Litts suggested implementing random checks on take-home vehicles to ensure compliance with policy.

Legislator Litts advocates for using GPS tracking software to monitor weekend usage of take-home vehicles.

Chair Maloney suggested creating a list of potential policy changes for discussion and voting.

Chair Maloney proposed meeting on June 20 and 27 to discuss policy and vote on items.

Legislator Litts: DPW, sheriff's department, and VA to provide policy information.

Chair Maloney: Invites head of DPW and fleet manager for policy discussion.

Legislators discussed policy implementation and input from department heads.

Legislators plan to hold separate meetings with DEA and sheriff to review policies.

Motion to Adjourn Motion Made By: Motion Seconded By: Votes in Favor: Votes Against:	Legislator Litts Legislator Hewitt 6 0
Adjourned:	6:47 PM
Respectfully submitted: Approved:	Lizvett Bost, Legislative Administrative Assistant June 20, 2024