

**Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: June 1, 2023 – 5:15 PM
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Gina Hansut
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Chelsea Villalba, Legislative Employee
PRESENT: Deputy Chair Chris Hewitt and Legislators Tricia Bowen, Dean Fabiano, and Abe Uchitelle
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Phil Erner; Sheriff Juan Figueroa, Director of Community Relations Juanita Hotchkiss – Ulster County Sheriff’s Office; Director Everett Erichsen – Emergency Management/Emergency Communications; Director Valerie Naccarato – Probation Department; Deputy Executive Chris Kelly – County Executive’s Office; Margaux Sanchez; Anna Jacobs

Chair Hansut called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM and Legislator Fabiano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Hansut stated that the Committee looked forward to working with Legislator Bowen and thanked her for her legislative service.

Chair Hansut asked if there was any discussion on the May 4, 2023 Minutes and hearing none:

Motion No. 1: **MOTION to APPROVE the Minutes of the May 4, 2023 Meeting of the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee**

Motion by: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded by: Legislator Uchitelle
Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None.
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes APPROVED**

Resolutions for the June 13, 2023 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 299 – Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget - Authorizing Payment Of Retroactive COVID Pay – Ulster County

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes a total premium payment using ARPA Federal Aid to thirty-three (33) eligible employees who performed essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency from 3/15/20 to 6/6/20 as per Resolution No. 604 of 2021.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut shared with the Committee the legal counsel recommendation of postponement of the Resolution until next month pending notification from the county attorney on the status of the pending litigation.

Motion No. 2: **MOTION to POSTPONE Resolution No. 299**

Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano
Voting In Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes In Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION POSTPONED**

Resolution No. 305 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$56,000.00 ~~\$37,509.50, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00,~~ Entered Into By The County – C & S Engineers, Inc. – Department of Public Works

Resolution Summary:

This Resolution approves contract amendment #2 to expand the scope of services to include additional site visits, new topographic survey at a new site, additional geotechnical investigations additional balloon floats, additional visual stimulation additional project meetings (County), meeting additional permitting requirements, additional boundary surveying, and expanded site concept drawings and increase the not-to-exceed amount for the Ulster County Public Safety Radio Tower at Tonche Mountain. 100% State funded. The amended term is 6/1/23 – 8/15/23, and the amended amount is \$56,000.00, for a total amount of \$140,941.50.

Discussion:

Legislator Hewitt inquired about the reason for the crossed-out language, and Director Erichsen stated that the initial amount was not what was agreed upon.

Motion No. 3: MOTION TO ADOPT Resolution No. 305 AS AMENDED AS PRESENTED

Motion By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle
Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED AS AMENDED AS PRESENTED**

Resolution No. 309 – Placing A Spending Cap Of \$XX,XXX,XXX.00 On All Costs Related To The Proposed Government Operations Center At Paradies Lane In New Paltz

Resolution Summary: This Resolution places a mandatory spending cap on the total amount of County funds expended for all costs related to the proposed Government Operations Center, including Capital Project 607, at \$XX,XXX,XXX.00.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Deputy Executive Kelly to explain that a 30% design was to provide insight on the project budget, and that this project is long overdue and not out of scale for the level of emergencies the County manages. Deputy Executive Kelly expressed concern at the placing of caps on a project that has used many resources to come to fruition, and encouraged the use of legislative roles to manage appropriations along the project process.

Legislator Uchitelle expressed concern and frustration about the purpose of the Resolution and suggested discussion with the sponsor to gain more insight.

Legislator Fabiano agreed with Deputy Executive Kelly’s points and recommended the Committee postpone the Resolution until the sponsor could further discuss it with the Committee.

Deputy Chair Hewitt agreed that he wanted to discuss the Resolution with the sponsor, inquired about the costs of the project site acquisition and how inflation is affecting the budget, and thanked the people who have worked on the project thus far.

Legislator Fabiano clarified that he was in opposition of the project site for some time, but expressed great support for the project.

Legislator Uchitelle expressed concern about the increasing costs of the project outside of the project site acquisition.

Chair Hansut expressed inquiries to ask the sponsor, including if the cap includes grants or non-county funding sources, and what the consequences would be if the project went over the cap.

Deputy Chair Hewitt inquired about when more detailed project information would become Available, and Deputy Executive Kelly explained that by the fall season there would be more granularity about the project, Senator Gillibrand will advocate for federal assistance for the project, and that other avenues of revenue and cost avoidance for the project are being discussed on a rolling basis.

Chair Hansut recommended that the Committee take no action on the Resolution.

Disposition: **NO ACTION TAKEN**

Resolution No. 336 – Adopting The Ulster County Department Of Health And Emergency Services Medical Reserve Corps Unit Organization And General Operation Policy – Department Of Emergency Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts the Ulster County Department of Health and Department of Emergency Services Medical Reserve Corps Policy for volunteers supporting the County’s Department of Health and Department of Emergency Services during times of disaster or community need.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Director Erichsen to provide background information on the Resolution, including the need to manage volunteer efforts in times of emergency, like the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Legislator Uchitelle expressed a previous concern about the financial impact of the Resolution, stating he felt comfortable advancing it because the cost was included in the budget.

Motion No. 4: **MOTION TO ADOPT Resolution No. 336**

Motion By:	Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Fabiano
Voting in Favor:	Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0

Disposition: RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 351 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An MOU Between The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services And The Department Of Emergency Services For Access To Criminal Justice Information Services Files – Ulster County Department Of Emergency Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services to provide the Department of Emergency Services access to the Criminal Justice Information Services Files.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Director Erichsen to provide background information on the Resolution, including the point of contact change for file access and an expired MOU necessitating a new one.

Motion No. 5: MOTION TO ADOPT Resolution No. 351

Motion By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano
Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 352 – Amending Capital Project No. 482 – Countywide Radio System – Amending The 2023 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Emergency Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 482 for the County Wide Radio System in the amount of \$299,999.00 on Land Mobile Radio Systems changes to include: added civil work to improve and develop the Kingston Shelter site, added civil work to accommodate the LMR system equipment, generator, and transfer switches, adding a generator and transfer switches to power aforementioned equipment in the event of a power outage, adding Nokia SR-X routers to direct and control site system data, and VESTA changes to include: adding two VESTA positions for Ulster Primary location, adding four IP phones for Ulster Primary location, adding a Peripheral Kit for the Ulster Primary Location, adding routers and switches for Highland, and adding Operating System migration.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Director Erichsen to provide background information on the Resolution, including the change order to the contract with Motorola.

Chair Hansut recognized Legislator Erner to inquire if the facilities that use the mentioned equipment will move to Paradies Lane, and Director Erichsen explained that the facility will be relocated though the tower site will not, and that the tower site required several upgrades.

Deputy Chair Hewitt inquired about the whereases in the Resolution, and Director Erichsen explained that the whereases amend the Capital Project over the years. Legislator Uchitelle and Director Erichsen discussed that many amendments to the Capital Project were grant funded.

Motion No. 6: MOTION TO ADOPT Resolution No. 352

Motion By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Uchitelle
Voting in Favor:	Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 354 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With Ulster County Board Of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) To Provide Two (2) Deputy Sheriff’s As School Resource Officers To Three (3) BOCES Locations – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to sign an agreement with Ulster County BOCES to provide two Deputy Sheriffs to serve as School Resource Officers in BOCES locations in Port Ewen, Saugerties and Ulster Park for the term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The not-to-exceed contract amount is \$232,704.74

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Sheriff Figueroa who expressed staff retention challenges and provided background information on the Resolution, including that a School Resource Officer (SRO) is presently at BOCES.

Legislator Bowen expressed concerns about the SRO program and her intention to discuss those concerns with the SRO trainer.

Sheriff Figueroa explained that the requests for increased SROs came from BOCES students' parents and shared information about the current SRO at BOCES.

Legislator Uchitelle expressed gratitude for the Sheriff and SRO work.

Legislator Bowen discussed the different roles played by school staff and faculty.

Chair Hansut expressed support for the SRO program due to her employment experience.

Deputy Chair Hewitt expressed concern about SROs holding weapons.

Sheriff Figueroa explained that schools have the option to hire armed security guards who are not trained law enforcement officers.

Motion No. 7: MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 354

Motion By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Hewitt
Voting in Favor:	Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	Legislator Bowen
Votes in Favor:	4
Votes Against:	1
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Sheriff Figueroa mentioned to the Committee that after a discussion with the BOCES Superintendent, BOCES will proctor GED exams at the jail after training is provided to incarcerated individuals by the Ulster Literacy Association.

Resolution No. 355 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$11,858.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – New York Communications Company, Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves contract amendment #2 to increase the number of months used to calculate the amount in the prior amendment and add four additional radio packages to the remaining forty-three months of the Criminal division radio lease. 100% County

funded. The amended term is 2/1/22 – 12/31/26 and the amended amount is \$11,858.00, for a total amount of \$624,681.00.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Sheriff Figueroa to provide background information on the Resolution, including that this is for an extension of the contract for four radios.

Legislator Uchitelle expressed concern about the amount of NYCOMCO contracts and Deputy Executive Chris Kelly explained that there is not another company that can be contracted, including that an analysis of these contracts will provide insight into how these purchases are financed.

Sheriff Figueroa discussed his work in consolidating a number of NYCOMCO contracts and explained the benefit of easily upgrading leased technology.

Deputy Chair Hewitt and Deputy Executive Kelly discussed opportunities to expand competition for contracts through the Economic Development Department.

Legislator Erner and Sheriff Figueroa discussed the cost benefits of easily upgrading leased technology.

Motion No. 8: MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 355

Motion By:	Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Hewitt
Voting in Favor:	Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 356 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$147,069.00 Entered Into By The County – Tyler Technologies, Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves contract amendment #8 to expand the scope of services to include Brazos™, a powerful data collection tool, APCO Interface Install, eCitation and eCrash vehicle accident software. 100% County funded. The amended term is 7/1/23 – 12/31/24 and the amended amount: \$147,069.00, for a Total Amount: \$2,510,375.67.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Sheriff Figueroa who explained that this Resolution extends the contract for the law enforcement records management system. Director Erichsen explained that this contract supports all county first responder agency records management systems and interoperability.

Motion No. 9: **MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 356**

Motion By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 357 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$24,000.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Verify Polygraph & Forensic Consultants, LLC – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Reoslution approves Contract amendment #1 to extend term of agreement and increase not-to-exceed amount for pre-employment polygraph evaluations of law enforcement applicants. 100% County funded. The amended term is 7/1/23 – 6/30/24, and the amended amount is \$24,000.00, for a total amount of \$53,760.00.

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Sheriff Figueroa who provided background information on this Resolution.

Motion No. 10: **MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 357**

Motion By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle
Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 358 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$12,512.51, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Visual Computer Solutions Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves contract amendment #11 to extend term of agreement for licensing, installation, configuration, and maintenance of the Police Officer Scheduling System and Correction Officer Scheduling System (“POSS/COSS”). 100% County funded. The amended term is 6/1/23 – 5/31/24, and the amended amount is \$12,512.51, for a total amount of \$167,323.10.

Motion No. 11: **MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 358**

Motion By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Sheriff Figueroa and Deputy Executive Kelly to explain that this system is part of the Department payroll system.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 359 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Amend A Contract With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Alternative To Incarceration Program – Department Of Probation

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes a contract amendment to allow the Department of Probation to accept \$61,769.00 from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, to fund the continuation of the Alternative to Incarceration program, allocating \$36,714.00 to Pretrial Services and \$25,055.00 to Community

Service/Work Release.

Motion No. 12: **MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 359**

Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Director Naccarato to provide background information on the Resolution, including that this is a previously received grant that funds the community service and pretrial programs.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 360 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$244,425.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock Inc. – Department Of Probation

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves contract amendment #2 to extend term of agreement for operation and implementation of the Alternative to Juvenile Detention Project, which is a diversion services program for low and moderate risk youth 7 through 17 years of age, and Restorative Justice programming for young adults 18 through 26 years of age, and for training and to establish partnerships for the Restorative Justice practices. 100% County funded. The amended term is 1/1/23 – 12/31/23, and the amended amount is \$244,425.00, for a total amount of \$639,425.00.

Motion No. 13: **MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 360**

Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hewitt

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Director Naccarato to provide background information on the Resolution.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 361 – Amending The 2023 County Budget To Upgrade A Part-Time Family Court Assistant Public Defender Position To Full-Time And Raise The Pay Rate – Public Defender

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2023 County Budget to upgrade a part-time family court assistant public defender position to full-time and raise the pay rate.

Motion No. 14: **MOTION TO DISCUSS Resolution No. 361**

Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

Chair Hansut recognized Deputy Executive Kelly to provide background information on the Resolution, including that this position will support equitable counsel for indigent clients by ensuring a well-balanced caseload.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Bowen, Hansut, Hewitt, Fabiano & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Chair Hansut noted to the Committee that Resolution No. 364 - Establishing A Restricted Capital Reserve Fund For The Government Operations Center Of The County Of Ulster Under Section 6-C Of The New York State General Municipal Law is in Committee, but it will not be in this Committee was undergoing the committee process, but would not appear in the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee.

Legislator Uchitelle expressed concern about the committee process for Resolution No. 364.

Under new business, Chair Hansut recognized Director of Community Relations and Incarcerated Individuals Juanita Hotchkiss and Sheriff Figueroa to discuss the newly created position and Ms. Hotchkiss' experience.

Chair Hansut recognized that May 7-13 was National Correction Officers' Week, May 14-20 was National Police Week, honoring fallen officers, and May 21-27 was National EMS Week, and thanked those in these fields for their service.

Chair Hansut asked the members if there was any other business. Hearing none:

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Hewitt

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Chelsea Villalba, Legislative Employee

Approved: July 6, 2023