

Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: January 29, 2014/7:15 PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Deputy Chairman Mary Beth Maio
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Lisa K. Mance, Legislative Employee
PRESENT: Legislators Maio, Briggs, Gregorius, Loughran and Ronk
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Ulster County Sheriff Paul VanBlarcum, Undersheriff Frank Faluotico, Legislator Chris Allen, Superintendent James Hanstein, Captain Michael Freer and Sgt. Perry Soule

Deputy Chairman Kenneth Ronk, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

MOTIONS:

MOTION NO. 1 **RESOLVED To Appoint a Chairman of the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee**

Deputy Chairman Maio called for nominations for Chairman of the Committee to be opened.

MOTION MADE BY: Legislator Ronk to nominate Legislator Briggs
MOTION SECONDED BY: Legislator Maio

Motion by Legislator Ronk to close nominations, seconded by Deputy Chairman Maio.

Legislator Briggs continued meeting as presiding Chairman presiding.

MOTION NO. 2 **RESOLUTION No. 11 – January 30, 2014**
TEXT OF MOTION: **RESOLVED to approve Resolution No. 11 - Appointing and Reappointing Members To The Ulster Fire Advisory Board**

RESOLUTION SUMMARY: This Resolution reappoints and reappoints members of the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board pursuant to the recommendations of the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board, whose terms shall expire on December 31, 2015. Chairman Briggs notified the Committee that at the Democratic Caucus, Legislator Rodriguez had requested to be appointed to the Fire Advisory Board. Legislator Ronk indicated that he had served on the Board for the past 6 years and that Legislator Lopez had volunteered to serve two years ago and had been serving with Legislator Ronk since. Legislator stated that the historical prospective was that there had been no persons interesting in serving in the past. Legislator Gregorius indicated that it was important to for the majority party to have a presence on the Board and that it was a slight to the majority party. Legislator Ronk stated that he would obtain a copy of the Board's By-laws to determine if a third party could be appointed. Chairman Briggs asked that the information be obtained to determine the number of appointments that could be made.

MOTION MADE BY: Legislator Maio
MOTION SECONDED BY: Legislator Ronk

Legislator Ronk was recognized for the purpose of an amendment to the Resolution removing himself and Legislator Lopez from the Resolution, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: No

VOTING IN FAVOR: Legislators Briggs, Ronk, Gregorius, Loughran and Maio.
VOTING AGAINST None
NO. OF VOTES IN FAVOR: 5
NO. OF VOTES AGAINST: 0
DISPOSITION: Motion as Amended passed

MOTION NO. 3 **RESOLUTION No. 21 – January 30, 2014**
TEXT OF MOTION: **RESOLVED to approve Resolution No. 21 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Correctional Medical Care Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff**

MOTION MADE BY: Legislator Maio
MOTION SECONDED BY: Legislator Ronk

RESOLUTION SUMMARY: This Resolution relates to a contract amendment for the execution by the County with Correctional Medical Care Inc. for approval by the Ulster County Legislature. The amendment is to extend the term of the agreement for three (3) additional months (beginning February 1, 2009 and ending April 30, 2014) and increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$696,048.45 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$13,649,720.28.

DISCUSSION: None
ROLL CALL VOTE: No
VOTING IN FAVOR: Legislators Briggs, Ronk, Gregorius, Loughran and Maio.
VOTING AGAINST None
NO. OF VOTES IN FAVOR: 5
NO. OF VOTES AGAINST: 0
DISPOSITION: Motion passed

MOTION NO. 4 **RESOLUTION No. 22– January 30, 2104**
TEXT OF MOTION: **RESOLVED to approve Resolution No. 22 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The County of Oneida For Boarding Inmates At The Central New York Psychiatric Center – Ulster County Sheriff**

MOTION MADE BY: Legislator Maio
MOTION SECONDED BY: Legislator Briggs

RESOLUTION SUMMARY: This Resolution allows for the boarding out of psychiatric inmates from Ulster County to the Oneida County Central New York Psychiatric Center Forensic Unit at the rate of \$165.00 per day per inmate. The Ulster County Sheriff requested that the Legislative Chairman execute the agreement with Oneida County for the boarding out of inmates with psychiatric problems for a term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2016.

DISCUSSION: The need to board out inmates with psychiatric issues was addressed by Captain Freer and the fact that Oneida is currently the closest facility equipped to handle these inmates. Superintendent Hanstein projected that the situation could possibly continue to get worse given the cuts in funding for mental health facilities and state and county mental health issues have now become a law enforcement issue. Captain Freer stated that this had become one of the biggest problems in corrections statewide and possibly even nationwide.

ROLL CALL VOTE: No
VOTING IN FAVOR: Legislators Briggs, Ronk, Gregorius, Loughran and Maio.
VOTING AGAINST None
NO. OF VOTES IN FAVOR: 5
NO. OF VOTES AGAINST: 0
DISPOSITION: Motion passed

MOTION NO. 5
TEXT OF MOTION: **RESOLUTION No. 23 – January 30, 2014**
RESOLVED to approve Resolution No. 23 – Approving Ulster County’s Revised 2014 STOP-DWI Program Plan And Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute All Intermunicipal Agreements Required Under The Plan – Ulster County Probation, STOP-DWI Division

MOTION MADE BY: Legislator Maio
MOTION SECONDED BY: Legislator Ronk

RESOLUTION SUMMARY: This Resolution requests the Ulster County Legislature to approve the Ulster County’s revised STOP DWI Program Plan which program is of value to reduce the incidents of drunk and drugged driving within the County.

DISCUSSION: None
ROLL CALL VOTE: No
VOTING IN FAVOR: Legislators Briggs, Ronk, Gregorius, Loughran and Maio.
VOTING AGAINST: None
NO. OF VOTES IN FAVOR: 5
NO. OF VOTES AGAINST: 0
DISPOSITION: Motion passed

MOTION NO. 6
TEXT OF MOTION: **RESOLUTION No. 24 – January 30, 2014**
RESOLVED to approve Resolution No. 24 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services For The Ignition Interlock Device Monitoring Program – Department Of Probation, Division Of STOP-DWI

MOTION MADE BY: Legislator Ronk
MOTION SECONDED BY: Legislator Maio

RESOLUTION SUMMARY: This Resolution requests the Legislative Chairman to execute a contract with the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services for a period from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 in the amount of \$55,215.00, which funds are to be used for the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) Ignition Interlock Device Monitoring Program to allow Ulster County STOP-DWI to offset the cost of administering the Program.

DISCUSSION: Legislator Ronk inquired if, in the absence of a representative from Probation, if those present knew if the device was Leander’s Law monitoring which was a large expense to County government which wasn’t completely covered by the State and which was court ordered.

ROLL CALL VOTE: No
VOTING IN FAVOR: Legislators Briggs, Ronk, Gregorius, Loughran and Maio.
VOTING AGAINST: None
NO. OF VOTES IN FAVOR: 5
NO. OF VOTES AGAINST: 0
DISPOSITION: Motion passed

MOTION NO. 7
TEXT OF MOTION: **RESOLUTION No. 25 – January 30, 2014**
RESOLVED to approve Resolution No. 25 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Department Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For Participation In The Local Emergency Management Performance

SHERIFF'S REPORT:

The Sheriff referenced year-end Report that had been distributed to the Committee which he indicated was self-explanatory and was on file with the Clerk of the Legislature. The Sheriff reiterated his position, which had been raised as a matter of course to a question posed by Legislator Gregorius regarding the interlock system, that Resolutions should not be reviewed with out the presence of a representative to explain or answer any questions with regard to the request being made. A letter generated by the Sheriff with regard to an FCC Order affecting telephone rates charged to inmates in prisons and jails and the economic impact it could have on the future telephone revenues was discussed and is on file with the Clerk of the Legislature. Sheriff VanBlarcum confirmed that all Legislative members received a copy of the Sheriff's year-end medical report and the RFPs were going to be reviewed and when the decision was going to be made, the Sheriff had asked that a Legislative member be present to watch the process. The Sheriff indicated that he would advise further after meeting with Purchasing. Legislator Ronk inquired as to the progress of the Dutchess County Sheriff in building additional pods explaining the impact the construction of the pods would have on the board-ins from Dutchess to Ulster County. Legislator Gregorius had provided a letter dated January 17, 2014 regarding a Site Visit Report (on file with Clerk). Sheriff VanBlarcum requested any questions with regard to the Sheriff's Office go through him and provide the Sheriff information prior to meetings so that he may be prepared. Superintendent Hanstein extended an invitation to all members that they were welcome to visit the jail for a tour.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

The Committee discussed the time and location of future meetings with the Sheriff stating that he preferred to have future meetings at the Law Enforcement Center. It was agreed that the following meeting of the Committee on Tuesday, February 4th would remain in the same location at 7:30 p.m. with future times and dates to be determined with the first Monday at 7:00 p.m. being considered. The appointment/election of a Deputy Chair was to be considered at the next meeting also.

Chairman Briggs presented an award on behalf of the Ellenville First Aid & Rescue Squad, Inc. to Sheriff VanBlarcum in appreciation of the assistance the Sheriff's Office provided to the Squad.

There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made by Legislator Maio seconded by Legislator Ronk and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 P.M.

**Dated the 31st Day of January, 2014
Lisa K. Mance, Legislative Employee**

Minutes Approved: February 4, 2014