

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee
DATE & TIME: August 3, 2010 @ 6:30 PM
PLACE: Library Conference Room, 6th Floor, County Office Building

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Deputy Chairman Thomas Briggs, Legislators Carl Belfiglio, Roy Hochberg, Hector Rodriguez, Kenneth Ronk, Michael Sweeney

LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Chairman Jack Hayes

OTHERS ATTENDING: Deputy County Executive Robert Sudlow, Sheriff Paul VanBlarcum

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 6:37 PM

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 6, 2010 MINUTES:

Motion offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Sweeney, All in Favor, Carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Resolution Draft No. 0806, August 17, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Aid To Defense Program - Department Of Public Defender

Motion offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Sweeney, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: None

2. **Resolution Draft No. 0814, August 17, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services - Operation Impact VII - District Attorney - Ulster County Sheriff - Department Of Probation

Motion offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Sweeney, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: None

New Business:

- Discussion Only - The Re-Entry Task Force has been re-organized and will be formulating Core and Ancillary Groups. For the time being this meeting will occur @ 2PM before the Criminal Justice Committee Meeting. Mr. Sudlow stated that he also attends these meetings and that Chairman Hayes is the Chairman of the Re-Entry Task Force. He stated that they are reconstituting and moving forward with Family of Woodstock as the Contract Agency and should be accepting their first cases either in September or October.
- Discussion Only - CREO has published a report on Ulster County Courts. A meeting with stakeholders is projected for some time this fall.

Old Business:

- Discussion Only - Update Local Law - Secondhand Dealers Subcommittee update.

Rodriguez: Stated that the Subcommittee has not met yet, therefore there is no update. Legislators Rodriguez and Belfiglio will be contacting the other members and setting up a meeting for this month and will report back at the next Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee. The Subcommittee consists of the following members: Legislator Rodriguez, Chair of the Subcommittee, Legislator Belfiglio, Legislator Gregorius, Ulster Police Deputy Police Chief Joseph Sinagra, and John Mower (Mower's Saturday Market).

Hochberg: Stated that one of the vendors that came to Ulster County on a weekend venue, put in one of their advertisements in the Daily Freeman that they did over 200,000 dollars worth of business. He feels that this is a significant amount of business in only three days. He questions the use of Sales Tax and Enforcement. His concern is that if it is stolen property, these vendors are gone in two to three days. He feels that this is not just a nickel and dime operation.

Sheriff's Update: At last month's meeting the Sheriff explained that the Town of Ulster is taking Officer Reynolds off the URGENT Team and how important he is to the team. He has asked the Committee to show support in keeping the 18 member team intact. The Sheriff passed out a letter to the Committee that he has written to Supervisor Quigley. The letter shows crime statistics in the Town of Ulster and states that the Town of Ulster's participation in URGENT is an essential function of the police department and crucial to Ulster County as a whole. He stated that his next step is a power point presentation.

Sudlow: Stated that there is another situation concerning the Town of Ulster in regards to the Shooting Range and Insurance Liabilities between the County and the Town of Ulster. This range is used by everyone in the police community. Contract Management is working on the issue.

VanBlarcum: Stated that all the Police Departments in the County use this Shooting Range and it fits the needs for everyone. They all save money by using each other's instructors.

Rodriguez: Q/When did this change in policy happen? A/Within the last couple of months.

Sudlow: Will revisit the issue tomorrow and will report his finding to the Committee.

Briggs: Gave an example of an incident that occurred 10 or 12 years ago on the Shooting Range in Ellenville. As a result of an injury that the officer obtained on the Range, he/she was no longer able to be a Police Officer due to the disability obtained by the injury. As a result said Officer sued every party that was connected to that range in any capacity. Hence, this may be what the Town of Ulster is trying to avoid.

VanBlarcum: This has never been an issue in the past.

Rodriguez: Q/Can other Town Police Chiefs be contacted and to see if they are also dealing with the same issue? A/VanBlarcum/Yes, he will do that. A/Sudlow/Will talk to Chairman Wadnola tomorrow and ask if he can contact the Town of Ulster Supervisor, and see if this can be resolved, he will also contact Contract Management.

Briggs: Congratulated the Sheriff on the recent work that the URGENT Team did in his District. He also stated that the Substation in Wawarsing is working very well. The Sheriff said that it is one of their busiest Substations.

Ronk: Asked the Sheriff how the URGENT Teams search and seizures are going. The Sheriff said his Office collected 125,000 dollars the other day from the US Marshall from Arizona. He stated that they make seizures all the time, but it takes years to get the money.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 6:55 PM

Motion offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Sweeney, All in Favor, Carried.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy Wilson, Senior Legislative Employee**
