

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

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

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Jack Hayes, Deputy Chairman Thomas Briggs (Left at 7:30), Legislators Carl Belfiglio, Roy Hochberg, Hector Rodriguez, Michael Sweeney

LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Legislator Kenneth Ronk

OTHERS ATTENDING: Legislator Gregorius, Sheriff Paul VanBlarcum, John Mower

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 6:50 PM

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 1, 2010 MINUTES:

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

Sheriff's Office - Paul VanBlarcum/Frank Faluotico

1. **Resolution Draft No. 0704, July 20, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Ulster County Board Of Cooperative Educational Services For A School Resource Officer For The Period Commencing July 1, 2010 And Ending June 30, 2011

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

Discussion: None

2. **Resolution Draft No. 0716, July 20, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Sign An Agreement With The New York City Department Of Environmental Protection To Provide Access To Mobile Data System

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

Discussion: None

Probation Department - Melanie Mullins

3. **Resolution Draft No. 0710, July 20, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Continuation Of A County Re-Entry Task Force And Creation Of An Enhanced Services Program

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

Discussion: There were questions on the Financial Impact of the Resolution. This is a grant program and there is no County match of funds. The grant program's objective is to support the continuation of a County Re-entry Task Force.

Emergency Communications / Emergency Management - Arthur Snyder

4. **Resolution Draft No. 0714, July 20, 2010** - Amending The Project Description For Property Acquired Under The Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program To Allow For The Transfer Of Property To Third Parties

Add as the final RESOLVED, that after presentation to the Legislature by the County Executive, the Ulster County Legislature shall by a majority vote release said properties to all third party participants upon final sale negotiated by the County Executive.

As Amended: Motion offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Hochberg, All in Favor, Carried.

On the Resolution: Motion offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Sweeney, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: The Committee had several questions and concerns regarding the above Resolution. Art Snyder was helpful by answering the questions via his cell phone. The Committee was concerned who the third-parties would be. Art explained that these are properties that were acquired by the County of Ulster through a state grant program known as the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program. The conditions of the grant program require that acquired property be restricted to, dedicated to, and maintained in perpetuity for use that is compatible with open space, recreation, flood mitigation and/or wetlands management. A third-party purchaser will be subject to the same restrictions upon the properties as listed above. These properties can never be built on again in the future and can be bought by not-for-profit organizations, public and/or private sales. The original Resolution just covered the acquisition of the properties, this Resolution allows for disposal of the properties to a third-party. The Committee amended the Resolution by adding a final RESOLVED, that stated, that after presentation to the Legislature by the County Executive, the Ulster County Legislature shall by a majority vote release said properties to all third party participants upon final sale negotiated by the County Executive.

New Business:

- **Changing the Date of the August 3rd Committee Meeting:** This was discussed by the Committee and there will be no change in next month's meeting date. The Deputy of the Committee, Legislator Briggs will Chair the meeting in Chairman Hayes's absence.
- **Discussion Only / Creation of a Commercial Vehicle Safety Sub-Committee:** (See attached hand-out) Chairman Hayes explained the hand out to the Committee. He believes education; along with seminars at SUNY Ulster is the way to raise awareness on all the regulations to the Mom & Pop owner/operators. He believes there is a lack of understanding by the average person on the road. Sheriff VanBlarcum will speak with the Grants Officer, Perry Soule, and see if there are any Grant monies available and that he supports the effort.
- **Discussion Only / Regional Jail Study, SUNY Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach:** Chairman Hayes attended the Regional Jail Study Meeting in Poughkeepsie; the subject matter is the potential in sharing jails. He stated that there is only a specific population that would be affected with regionalization. The populations that may benefit from regionalization are females, juveniles, and facilities for the mentally disabled. He did not see a huge following of support for centralized/regionalized jails. SUNY New Paltz, Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach will be completing and releasing their court study very soon. When this report is released then that data can be explored by all the groups involved. Legislator Rodriguez mentioned the point again that we still have a facility that could possibly be rehabilitated to possibly house females. Sheriff VanBlarcum stated that the old jail does not meet state standards.

Old Business:

- **Legislator Gregorius / questions and/or concerns regarding the proposed changes to the Local Law on the Licensing of Persons in the Business of Purchasing Second-hand Articles:** After much deliberation, the Committee agreed due to the overly broad scope of this Local Law, to form a Subcommittee consisting of the following members: Legislator Rodriguez will Chair the Subcommittee, Legislator Belfiglio, Legislator Gregorius, Ulster Police Deputy Police Chief Joseph Sinagra, and John Mower (Mower's Saturday Market). The Subcommittee will meet and report back to the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee. The Chairman added that there is a lot of dialog happening on the subject, but the dialog is not zeroing in enough on the specifics needed to make the necessary improvements to either the existing Law or a new recommended Law. He wants to see specific recommendations from the Subcommittee and then the Committee can agree as to what compromises can be made to address these changes.

Motion to form the Subcommittee was offered by Legislator Rodriguez, Seconded by Legislator Belfiglio, All in Favor, Carried.

- Update County Medical Examiner Protocol: Chairman Hayes updated the Committee that Undersheriff Faluotico is working with Medical Examiner Dr. Heller, Patrick Sheehan, and Public Health Director Dr. Hasbrouck in gathering information regarding Medical Examiner protocol. They are in the process of examining NYC protocol.

Sheriff VanBlarcum explained to the Committee that the Town of Ulster has decided to take one of the members off the URGENT Team. He is asking that the Committee take a stand and show their support at tomorrow's Chief of Police Meeting. To show representation at the next Town Board Meeting and/or Police Commissioner Meeting or at the very least a letter, stating how devastating it will be to lose a member. Officer Reynolds of the Town of Ulster is an integral part of the URGENT Team. The Committee agreed that they would absolutely show their support in keeping the 18 member URGENT Team intact and Chairman Hayes will be attending the Chief's Meeting.

Sheriff VanBlarcum also handed out to the Committee the Monthly Boarding Averages.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:15 PM

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy Wilson, Senior Legislative Employee
