

Public Safety Committee Minutes

December 9, 2008 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Thompson; Supervisors Grattidge, Jenkins, Veitch, Wormuth, and Wright; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Daniel Butler, Animal Shelter; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; James Murphy, District Attorney; Paul Parker, Deputy Fire Coordinator; Helen Cranshaw, Margot Ammon, League of Women Voters; Press.

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance and thanked all committee members for their support throughout the year.

On a motion made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the November 12, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Murphy said that the Saratoga Springs Domestic Violence Court has begun in Saratoga Springs City Court. Prosecutor Lynn Murphy is in her eleventh year of what was originally a three-year grant. Last year the Integrated Domestic Violence Corp began last year with Judge Ferradino in the Supreme Court and Family Court Judges. The next step is to bring it to the City Courts, starting in Saratoga Springs and in the City of Mechanicville Court in 2009. All domestic violence cases will be put on for a special day all by themselves. Since the opening of the Domestic Violence Court in Saratoga Springs there have been 30 cases to date.

Mr. Butler presented the monthly Animal Shelter report for November as follows:

The Animal Shelter received 207 animals for the month with 173 adopted. Thirty-two animals were euthanised for health reasons. Twenty-five of the 46 stray dogs were returned back to their owners. One hundred and twenty two animals were vaccinated at the last rabies clinic.

This month is the first full month that Dr. Blasdell has been neutering animals at the shelter. There was one raccoon that tested positive from the town of Clifton Park.

Mr. Butler said the Bark Fest took place on Sunday, December 7th at the Clifton Park Center with 82 participants, the event was sponsored by Sloppy Kisses.

Mr. Lent requested a resolution to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with J&A Bayly Construction for the removal of the Spruce Mountain Radio Tower and Transmitter building at a cost not to exceed \$32,160.

Pursuant to the permit that was issued by the Adirondack Park Agency, the county is required to remove the towers that are no longer being used and dismantle the existing transmitter buildings when they are no longer being used.

In October of 2008 the radio equipment was moved to the building on Spruce Mountain and antennas were installed on the existing National Grid tower.

Bid specifications for the work to be completed were distributed and proposals were received. There were a total of three bids received with the following results:

J&A Bayly Construction, East Greenbush	\$32,160
Infinigy Engineering, Latham	\$33,900
ANS Services, Menands	\$115,895

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with J&A Bayly Construction of East Greenbush for the removal of the Spruce Mountain Radio Tower and Transmitter building at a cost not to exceed \$32,160. Unanimous.

Mr. Lent said construction work has begun on the road to the proposed tower site on Fraker Mountain in Edinburg.

Construction work has begun on the installation of improvements needed at the Halfmoon Water Tank.

All paperwork has been completed with regard to the Federal Aviation Administration to secure the position on the tower in Stillwater. Chairman Hargrave has executed the required agreement with the FAA. The final engineering is proceeding, and it is expected that bids will go out for construction in January.

Mr. Lent said a check was received for \$575,076 from T-Mobile, which represents the final payment toward the microwave system. Earlier in the year a check was received for \$23,065 as the initial payment toward the county vacating the 2.1 GHz microwave band. A total of \$598,141 was received to purchase the new 6 GHz microwave system. Expenses against the \$598,141 totaled \$565,771.

Mr. Lent said when the fire antenna was removed on Spruce Mountain, some coverage was lost toward South Glens Falls and Gansevoort. After additional work the problem seems to be resolved.

Mr. Lent said as part of the proposed 2009 budget \$600,000 has been included for the purchase of new personal pagers for the fire service. This will facilitate the movement of alerting fire departments from VHF-low band to VHF-high band. In anticipation of the passage of the 2009 budget a bid specification has been prepared and sent to the vendors for proposals for the purchase of new pagers. Bids are due to the Office of General Services on December 15, 2008.

Mr. Thompson said he received a letter from the Sheriff requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to accept \$17,967 in aid for extra seatbelt checkpoints for the "Buckle Up New York" program. The contract period would be from 10/1/08 to 9/30/09.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to authorize the Chairman to enter an agreement with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to accept \$17,967 in aid for extra seatbelt checkpoints and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Tremblay outlined the following State Fire Training Courses that will be finishing up this month:

Firefighter 1 – This is a 26 unit, 78-hour course and continues at the West Crescent Fire Station with 21 firefighters.

Firefighter Survival – This course requires students to perform a number of practical evolutions with self-contained breathing apparatus. This is a 3 unit, 9-hour course, with two held at the Fire Training Center with a total of 39 firefighters attending.

Firefighter 11 – This is a 9 unit, 27-hour course which replaced Advanced Firefighter, held at the Wilton Fire Station with 17 firefighters attending.

Accident Victim Extrication Training – This 4 unit 16 hour course was held at the Jonesville Fire Station with 24 firefighters in attendance.

The following incidents were recorded for November 2008:

A structure fire in the town of Stillwater on Blizzard Road with the Arvin Hart Fire Department assisting.

A structure fire on Snow Road in the town of Edinburg with the Edinburg Fire Department responding.

Mr. Tremblay said the Hazardous Materials Response Team completed training at the Incident Command System this month.

Work continues with the Capital Region Haz Mat Group to obtain Regional Grant Funding.

On a motion made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Veitch the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom