

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 9, 2010 – 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Daly, Jenkins, M. Johnson, Veitch, Wright; Grattidge; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Paul Lent, Dan Miller, Emergency Services; Jim Murphy, D.A.; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney; Sheriff Jim Bowen; Undersheriff Mike Woodcock; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Paul Parker, Deputy Fire Coordinator; Paul Viscusi, Probation; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Richard Wirth, Saratoga Springs Commr. of Public Safety; LWV Reps. (2); Press

Chairman Wormuth called the meeting to order.

On a motion by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the minutes of the meeting of January 13th were approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Wright moved to authorize renewal of the Sheriff's contract with the Village of Corinth for police services for one year for the same amount as last year. Mr. Veitch seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Murphy requested a **resolution Proclaiming April 18-24 as Crime Victims' Week.** Mr. Murphy stated this year, the vigil will be held on Sunday, April 25th at the Presbyterian-New England Congregational Church on Circular Street in Saratoga Springs. The theme is "treating victims with fairness, dignity and respect." He stated the Supervisors will all be receiving invitations. **Mrs. Johnson moved to approve this resolution. Ms. Daly seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Murphy requested a **resolution authorizing the Chair to accept a \$40,000 Operation Impact Grant.** He said they are at the lowest level of this money. **Mr. Wright moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Jenkins seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Murphy requested a **resolution authorizing the Chair to accept a \$38,832 Violence Against Women Grant.** He said in 1998, they first received this grant, and at that point, it was a three-year grant, and they are still getting the money. He mentioned Lyn Murphy is the person who prosecutes these cases, and the money is used to offset expenses. We have about 1200 cases pending today. Ms. Daly asked how does that compare to previous years. Mr. Murphy stated the numbers have increased because people are no longer afraid to report it. People are more inclined to seek help, he stated. **Ms. Daly moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Wright seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Butler distributed copies of the Animal Shelter Report for February, and he briefly reviewed it. He said they received a stray goat last Saturday, but the owner was found.

Mr. Butler stated the first rabies clinic of the year will be held next Tuesday at the 4-H Training Center, and they will continue on through the Fall.

Mr. Butler stated he was approached by Sarah Evans who is a ninth grade student who wrote a children's book entitled "Sour Little Lemon Tree" which is about being different is OK, and everyone is unique. She will be doing a book signing at the Shelter's annex in Clifton Park on Saturday, March 20th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The proceeds will go to the Shelter, he said.

Mr. Viscusi requested a **resolution accepting a grant of \$159,251 from DSS to be used to contract with Berkshire Farms for additional Juvenile Services. Mr. Veitch moved to approve this resolution. Mrs. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Carr said each year, the State DCJS requires the County to submit a service plan update for the Community Work Order and Pre-Trial Program. He said this update was approved at the Criminal Justice Advisory Council meeting today. He requested a **resolution to approve this update and to accept \$32,524 in State aid to help offset the cost of the program. Ms. Daly moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Veitch seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent requested a **resolution to accept a NYS Emergency Management Performance Grant of \$77,160 for 2009** to help offset the cost of the office. He said it is a little more than the 2008 grant. He mentioned the 2010 grant should be forthcoming this year. **Mrs. Johnson moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Jenkins seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Veitch introduced Commissioner Wirth to the Committee. Mr. Veitch said in July, 2007, in Resolution 155-07, the County accepted a \$15,000 State grant to purchase equipment/materials for an Operation Safe Child ID Program. He said the County obtained the materials, and the Saratoga Springs Police Department implemented the program. Subsequently, the equipment was given to the City, and the program executed within their budget. This program has been done in several towns, and the program has identified over 2,000 children in Saratoga County. He stated this program has been cut from the City's budget, and they are trying to find a way to continue the program, and he asked for help from the County. Chairman Wormuth suggested that a subcommittee be appointed to look at different options to see how this could be continued. She appointed Supervisors Veitch, Jenkins and M. Johnson to this subcommittee.

Ms. Daly stated she has an ID card for her daughter dated 2005, but Clifton Park must have done this on their own. Mr. Veitch state the City has been funding that program for the past two years, but it was cut due to the budget shortfall. If nothing happens, the city will probably do this only for Saratoga Springs and no other community. Chairman Wormuth said that is why she would like the subcommittee to look at this.

Mr. Veitch said he would like Mr. Murphy and Mr. Wirth to sit down with the subcommittee also.

On a motion by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Ms. Daly, the meeting adjourned to Executive Session to discuss potential litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Ms. Daly, the meeting returned to open session.

On a motion by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Ms. Daly, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann