

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 13, 2007 – 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Trottier; Supervisors Grattidge, A. Johnson, M. Johnson; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Dan Miller, Emergency Services; Sheriff Jim Bowen; Bob Murphy, STOP-DWI Coordinator; Jim Murphy, D.A.; Paul Parker, Malta; Press

Chairman Trottier called the meeting to order.

Mr. Grattidge moved to approve the minutes of the October 9th meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Butler distributed copies of his monthly report for October and briefly reviewed it. He mentioned that due to warmer weather, there have been extra breeding cycles for cats.

Mr. Butler stated there was a benefit held at the Saratoga National Golf Course, and \$14,000 was raised for the Shelter after expenses, and about 275 people attended. There were a lot of nice donated silent auction gifts, he said. He said 376 stuffed kittens were donated for the event by Oriental Traders for a display to show what it would look like if you didn't have your cat spayed or neutered. He passed around a photo of that display. It was a very nice time, he said. Mr. Johnson mentioned the organizer, Sandy Zannone, did an excellent job.

Mr. Butler said on December 9th, there will be a Breakfast with Santa Paws at the Inn at Saratoga from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.. He said Melanie Bishop, from Sloppy Kisses, is holding this event.

Mr. Grattidge suggested doing a recognition for the organizers of the Shelter benefit that was held. Mr. Butler said the Shelter did a Certificate of Appreciation, but it would be nice to have something from the Board. Chairman Trottier said we can do something at the December Board Meeting.

Mr. Butler said we are going to try to get an RFP on a new building. The Buildings & Grounds Committee has set up a trip to the Berkshire Animal Shelter for Wednesday, November 28th, and an invitation is being extended to this Committee also, he said. He said there will be a van going out there from here, and if you would like to go, please RSVP with the County Administrator's office.

Chairman Trottier asked Mr. Butler if his report could be broken down by location. Mr. Butler said as of November 1st, they are in the middle of a new computer program, and they will be able to do a breakdown by town.

Mr. J. Murphy requested a **resolution to accept \$35,000 from the Division of Criminal Justice Services to fund a Road to Recovery Program.** He said they have had this program in place for three years. It is a drug alternative to prison program for addicted individuals who would be headed to county jail or State prison. If they are addicted, they would qualify for this 18-month program, he said. We have graduated 60 people so far from this program, he added. He stated the people who have gone through this have come a long way, and no one who graduated has reoffended. **Mrs. Johnson moved to accept this grant. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. J. Murphy mentioned there was a flood in his office due to a pipe that had burst. He stated that men who work for Joe Ritchey did a phenomenal job in getting them back in business within 24 hours.

Sheriff Bowen distributed copies of their September report on Seatbelt, Radar, Commercial Vehicle and DWI checkpoints throughout the County; Commission on Inmates' Collect Calls; and the October Plate Hunter results. He stated the Plate Hunter is a really valuable tool, and he thanked the Board for purchasing that for them. Chairman Trottier asked if there had ever been any challenges to this Plate Hunter, and Sheriff Bowen said no, everything has been great.

Sheriff Bowen requested a **resolution for the Chairman to sign a grant extension for the Wireless 911 funding to access the remaining \$110,000 in aid.** He mentioned this is a part of their \$1.8 million grant that has expired. **Mr. Grattidge moved to approve this extension. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.**

Sheriff Bowen requested a **resolution to accept a Wireless 911 grant from DCJS in the amount of \$114,384 to cover the costs of upgrades to the Wireless 911 System.** We have to spend the money, and we will get reimbursed by them, he said. **Mrs. Johnson moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.**

Sheriff Bowen requested a **resolution to accept a \$15,000 grant from DCJS for the reimbursement of overtime.** He said he has two Deputies assigned to the northern division of the Drug Task Force. **Mr. Johnson moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Chairman Trottier asked Sheriff Bowen if the cellular positioning was up and running. Sheriff Bowen said yes, it is running great. He said Saratoga Springs went down a couple of weeks ago, and we sent up our communications van and handled all of their calls. This system is doing the job for the County. He said they have one centralized answering point, and Waterford, Mechanicville, Ballston Spa and Saratoga Springs do not go through us, he said. We are equipped to take care of anyone who goes down, he said. If those other areas go down, we are able to pick them up also, he added. When we applied for that \$1.8 million grant, we pulled it all together, and it's working without any problems, he stated.

Mr. Grattidge asked Sheriff Bowen if he sees much of an issue with illegal aliens in this County regarding the licensing issue. Sheriff Bowen said he is dead opposed to this plan. He mentioned other law enforcement agencies are not in favor of this. Why are we rewarding criminals with a license or any type of ID, he said. He said if an illegal alien applies for a license in this County, Kathy Marchione will call him so that they can get their information. I am against the Governor on this, and so is our Sheriff's Association, he said.

Chairman Trottier asked Sheriff Bowen if everything was working well in the Village of Corinth. Sheriff Bowen said yes. He said several people were circulating a petition because they didn't like one of our deputies because every one of them had a ticket issued by him. It is going great, he said.

Mr. Lent distributed copies of his November report. He said Saratoga County had its 800 MHz radio licenses reinstated by the FCC in March. As part of that reinstatement, we are required to have some part of our system operational by 12/31/07. He said in order to be compliant, he requested

permission to spend up to \$125,000 from the capital account to pay for 3 base stations and 10-15 mobile radios. This cost also includes expenses to install antennas, console interfaces and ancillary equipment needed to make the system operational. All of the equipment with the exception of installation labor is on New York State contract. Mr. Hellwig said it will require contracts, and Mr. Lent will have to come back and get approvals. He will need to do business with specific vendors, he said. **Mr. Johnson moved to authorize spending up to \$125,000 to purchase radio equipment from State contract. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent said Saratoga County received its first payment from T-Mobil based on the agreement we entered into. We must now start the migration from our existing 2.1GHz. microwave system to our planned 6 GHz. System. To start that planning, we need to do path studies and engineering as well as begin the licensing process with the FCC. Alcatel is a vendor on New York State contract and can provide these services per predetermined State contract pricing. Based on a quote from Alcatel, the cost to complete the required path studies and process the required FCC licensing documents will not be more than \$18,000. **Mrs. Johnson moved to approve entering into an agreement with Alcatel to complete FCC required studies and document processing at a cost not to exceed \$18,000. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent said Saratoga County has a lease for property at the base of the road at Spruce Mt. For the old Snow Cat garage. This lease expires 12/31/07. He said the rate is \$650/yr. for three years. During the deployment of the new radio system, this storage space will be beneficial to have, he said. **Mr. Grattidge moved to authorize entering into a three-year lease agreement with Upland Forestry at \$650/yr. Mrs. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Tremblay distributed copies of the Fire Services Report for October, and he briefly reviewed this.

Chairman Trottier asked Mr. Tremblay if we sent anyone out to the California fires. Mr. Tremblay said some EnCon rangers went out, but anyone else would have gone on their own. Chairman Trottier mentioned that the Reverse 911 worked well out there.

On a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann