

Public Safety Committee Minutes  
October 8, 2019 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Bill Peck; Committee Members Preston Allen, Phil Barrett, Darren O’Conner, Scott Ostrander, Tim Szczepaniak, Tom Wood; Supervisor Ed Kinowski; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Penny Heritage, Animal Shelter; Steve Bayle, Probation; Karen Heggen, District Attorney; Andrew Blumenberg, Public Defender; Carl Zeilman, Michael Stanley, Emergency Services; Michael Zurlo, Rick Castle, Sheriff; J. Wes Carr, Youth Bureau & STOP DWI; Tina Potter, Social Services; Mark Castiglione, CDYCI; Press .

Chairman Peck called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Allen, the minutes of the September 10, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, to authorize a transfer from the Animal Shelter Trust Fund and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.**

Ms. Heritage said that list of items that the funds will be used on was emailed to the committee last week and includes software & technology/wireless access, commercial washer-extractor, kennel entrance/exit, light blocking shades, sound absorbing baffles and cat cage portals. The total amount being requested is \$43,906 and is less than 80% of the available funds from last year’s donations. Mr. Peck said that a few years ago a resolution was passed that up to 80% of the previous year’s donations could be used.

**A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Allen, to authorize an agreement for the use and operation of the Capital District Juvenile Secure Detention Facility effective January 1, 2020. Unanimous.**

Mr. Bayle said that this will combine the previously separate agreements with Albany, Rensselaer, and Schenectady Counties. The terms remain the same. Billing will be on a quarterly basis. Mr. Bayle introduced Mark Castiglione from CDYCI to answer any questions. Mr. Bayle said that this year they only used 47 bed days. Currently there is one reserved bed for each of the two classifications of youth. Adolescent offenders and GADs.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, to authorize the acceptance of a Raise the Age grant in the amount of \$155,952 and amending the budget. Unanimous.**

Mr. Bayle said that this will be used to reimburse personnel and some programming costs. The budget will be amended for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the amount to line up with the State Fiscal year. The budget amendment will be for \$116,964.

**A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Barrett, to authorize accepting an Aid to Prosecution Grant for the District Attorney's Office. Unanimous.**

Ms. Heggen said that this grant runs from 10/1/2019 to 9/30/2020. It assists with the prosecution of violent felonies. The amount is \$57,820.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, to authorize the acceptance of a domestic violence prosecution grant from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$35,600. Unanimous.**

Ms. Heggen said that this grant assists with the prosecution of Domestic Violence cases. The grant runs from 1/1/2020 – 12/31/2020. Mr. Peck said that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Barrett, to authorize accepting an Aid to Defense grant in the amount of \$14,234 for the Public Defender's Office. Unanimous.**

Mr. Blumenberg said that this will help fund attorney costs in the office, an Assistant Public Defender tracking felony cases.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Allen, to authorize acceptance of grant distribution No. 8 from NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services in the amount of \$423,201 for Conflict Defender services. Unanimous.**

Mr. Blumenberg said that this is a continuing grant. It began in January of 2018 and continues through December of 2020.

Mr. Zeilman said that he previously distributed his report. Mr. Zeilman highlighted the accreditation that the office received this past year and thanked Mike Stanley, Emergency Specialist in the office for his work.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, to adopt the County's updated Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan. Unanimous.**

Mr. Zeilman said that the plan is currently in the approved pending adoption phase. Once approved by the Board, it will become the official Hazard Mitigation Plan. This will be updated every 5 years. Once approved by the Board, it goes to the separate municipalities for their separate adoptions. This will essentially meet the requirements of FEMA for funding should a disaster be declared in the municipality. Mr. Zeilman said that they will follow up with each of the municipalities to remind them to get approvals.

**A motion was made by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Allen, to authorize the acceptance of a grant from the NYS Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$217,437 and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.**

Mr. Zeilman said that this is part of the SHSP Fire Coordinator's grant. The funds will be used for office equipment, EMS equipment, EOC equipment, an enclosed response trailer for the Sheriff's department SWAT team, and other items.

**A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives regarding use of a County facility located at 8 Taddeo Road in the Town of Malta. Unanimous.**

Mr. Zeilman said that in turn for providing space, the ATF will provide training to fire investigators and will work with the Sheriff's office on technical training. Mr. Zeilman said that 8 Taddeo Road is the old Round Lake Firehouse which was recently purchased by the County. As part of the use of the facility, the ATF will increase the security at the building, doors and security cameras.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, to authorize an amendment to Resolution 247 of 2017 to increase the contract amount with Pittsfield Communications from \$20,200 to \$28,161.03 for additional installation and programming services. Unanimous.**

Mr. Zeilman said that this is the radio Motorola contract. The increase is to cover expenses related to additional Sheriff office personnel, namely the School Resource Officers and their vehicles, and one DPW truck.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, to authorize a 1-year agreement with the Department of the Navy in the amount of \$4,500 for the Sheriff's use of thermal and night vision equipment. Unanimous.**

Mr. Castle said that is a continuation of an agreement that began in 2017. The agreement covers maintenance and replacement. The value of the equipment is approximately \$50K.

**A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Allen, to authorize the acceptance of a Governor's Traffic Safety grant in the amount of \$12,000 and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.**

Mr. Castle said that this is an annual grant and will cover additional traffic enforcement, DWI and seatbelt enforcement.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Barrett, to authorize the acceptance of a grant from NYS Department of Homeland Security State PSAP Operations in the amount of \$164,959. Unanimous.**

Mr. Castle said that this is an annual grant and is an increase of a little over \$30K from last year.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Allen, to authorize the acceptance of a grant from the NYS Department of Homeland Security State Law Enforcement Explosives Detection Canine Team in the amount of \$50,000. Unanimous.**

Mr. Castle said that they apply for this grant annually. The last time they received it was 2010. This is a \$50K grant over 3 years and will be used toward a new K9 team, replace an aging K9 vehicle and purchase explosive detection equipment.

**A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, to authorize the acceptance of a grant from the NYS Department of Homeland Security State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program in the amount of \$72,479. Unanimous.**

Mr. Castle said that this is an annual grant and the funds will be used for the Lexipol contract, the Navy equipment agreement and other ancillary expenses. This is a 3 year grant.

Mr. Szczepaniak commended the Departments for ascertaining all of the grant opportunities.

**On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Allen, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board