

Public Safety Committee Minutes
July 7, 2021– 1:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman John Lant; Committee Members Preston Allen, Dick Lucia, Mike Smith; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Matt Rose, Audra Hedden, County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, County Attorney; Michael Zurlo, Rick Castle, Sheriff; David DeCelle, Coroner; Karen Heggen, District Attorney; J. We Carr, STOP-DWI; Steve Bayle, Probation; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Penny Heritage, Animal Shelter; Andrew Blumenberg, Public Defender; John Safford.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Allen, the minutes of the June 1, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Lucia, to authorize the Sheriff and Chairman of the Board to enter into agreements with the following school districts for the provision of Deputy Sheriffs as School Resource Officers: Ballston Spa (2), Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake, Corinth, Galway, Mechanicville, Saratoga Springs, Schuylerville, Shenendehowa (2), South Glens Falls and Stillwater. Unanimous.

Mr. Castle said that these agreements will be with ten school districts for twelve S.R.O. positions. The cost per S.R.O. to the school district is \$74,093.75 for the 2021-2022 school year, with 2% increases on the salary portion in subsequent years. No amendment is needed, funds are already included in the 2021 budget and will be included in the 2022 proposed budget.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Smith, to appoint Arthur D. Nolan as Deputy Coroner. Unanimous.

Mr. DeCelle said that Deputy Coroner Eugene LaDue resigned effective July 1. Mr. Nolan is retired and has some law enforcement background. Funds are included in the 2021 budget.

A motion was made by Mrs. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Lucia, to accept an Aid to Prosecution grant from the Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$57,820. Unanimous.

Mrs. Heggen said that this is an annual grant. The Division of Criminal Justice Services is changing the timeframe of the grant, it will run from April 1 through March 31. The grant is funded based in part on the percentage of violent felony cases that the County prosecutes, and is calculated on a formula by the State.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mrs. Raymond, to authorizing the acceptance of additional state aid in the amount of \$2,000 from the New York State STOP-DWI Foundation, Inc. for DWI Crackdown Program patrols and activities, and amending the 2021 budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Carr said that this is similar to the Resolution passed in April. Some of the counties across the state don't always use their funding so it is reappropriated to Counties that can use it. Mr. Carr said that he applied for and received the additional \$2K.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Lucia, to approve the County's Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Performance-Based Services Plan and authorizing acceptance of State Grants for Community work order and pre-trial release service programs in the amount of \$26,224 for the term of July 1st, 2021 until June 30th, 2022. Unanimous.

Mr. Bayle said that the grant amount and plan has not changed in the past several years. The funds are used by the Probation Department to supervise people that are on pre-trial release while their charges are pending, and also Employment and Training administers the Community Work Order program when people are sentenced to do community service.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Smith, to authorize an extension of memorandum of agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the Temporary Loan of Interoperable Communications Resources until March 31, 2024. Unanimous.

Mr. Tremblay said that this is a no cost agreement that provides communication capability through radio, video and other means with resources available with other Counties.

Mr. Lant thanked the Sheriff and his department for keeping us all safe this summer.

On a motion made by Mrs. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Allen, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Clerk of the Board