

PUBLIC SAFETY Transcript 11-1-2021

SPEAKERS

Jean Raymond, John Lant, Mike Smith, Karen Heggen, Preston Allen, Wes Carr, Several Supervisors, Dick Lucia, Eric Connolly, Bridget Rider

John Lant

I'd like to welcome everybody to the November 1st, Public Safety County meeting. Attendance been taken?

Bridget Rider

It has.

John Lant

Everybody had a chance to read last minute, last month's minutes. If so somebody want to make a motion to approve them?

Preston Allen

So moved.

John Lant

Second?

Eric Connolly

Second.

John Lant

All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

John Lant

Carried. Mr. Carr is going to talk about Stop DWI update. How are you?

Wes Carr

Good and you?

John Lant

Good.

Bridget Rider

Who just joined the line?

Mike Smith

Mike Smith.

Bridget Rider

I'm sorry, who was that?

Mike Smith

Mike Smith.

Bridget Rider

Thank you, Supervisor Smith.

Wes Carr

Good afternoon, I just wanted to update the Committee and ultimately the Board on our High Visibility Engagement Campaign. This used to be known as Crackdown, which is a very high density patrols by law enforcement throughout the County and other activities such as DWI checkpoints, and so forth. But beginning on a cycle that began on October 1, there's going to be an increased emphasis on education and public awareness. And one of the things we're going to do is, I've given you the calendars, in red you'll see the various crackdown periods, we just finished up Halloween, normally, Saratoga County doesn't participate in the Halloween crackdown, because we try to put our money towards more of the summertime, July 4, and then the Labor Day, which covers big part of August, and the Track and SPAC and so forth, we just feel that it's money's better spent there. But if you could take these calendars, and I'm going to be getting more, but if you want to put them in your Town Hall or libraries, or if there's community centers, and so forth, anyway you think that they might be appropriate, I'd appreciate if you did that. We're gonna be getting other materials so forth, too. And we're going to be doing billboards, working outreach to the business community to see if we can enlist their help in promoting Stop DWI. With the Sheriff with his Facebook, we'll be working with him on that too. And Christine Rush with the County PR activities, I'm going to be working with her to do that as well. And as I've talked before, the Sheriff purchased a bus a few years ago from the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake School District, we're still in the process of putting that together and making that a mobile education unit. We're going to use that to go out throughout the County and get the word out as well. One other thing, and I've talked with Ed Tremblay and the fire, fire services, fire coordinator, I'm sorry. When various fire departments throughout the County might be doing a Jaws of Life exercise, when that exercise is over, what we'd like to do is take the cars and put them out somewhere maybe on a busy road, and put our Stop DWI banner up there too, as a method of trying to increase awareness. So if anybody has any questions, and please don't hesitate to reach out to me, and again, I will be getting more materials as time goes on and I'll be getting them out to all you folks so you can get them out into your Towns as well. Any questions?

John Lant

Thank you.

Wes Carr

You're welcome.

Jean Raymond

John, it's Jean Raymond on the line a little bit late.

Dick Lucia

Dick Lucia also.

John Lant

Alright, accepting the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Service Crimes Against Revenue Program Grant, District Attorney Hagen how are ya?

Karen Heggen

I'm well, thank you, Chairman Lant. I'm here asking for continuing, ongoing acceptance of a grant that this is now I believe, the fourth year that my office has received. It funds a full time position in my office that focuses primarily on crimes against revenue. We work in conjunction with the New York State Department of Tax and Finance. And I have two people splitting this grant. We are very successful in being able to recoup large sums of money both for victims as well as taxing authorities when they are the ones who are the victims of crime. So if someone is stealing from unemployment or workers comp. And today, for example, we just got a plea to the top count by a woman who was an attorney who stole over \$860,000 from a victim. And because the case was so strong and has been worked with the New York State Department of Financial Crimes Unit, we are getting all of the money back for the victim at the time of sentencing and she still faces a period of incarceration. So this money is well spent to dedicate the resources, so we've got people that can really focus on these kinds of cases.

John Lant

Anybody got any questions for District Attorney? Wanna make a motion?

Dick Lucia

So moved.

John Lant

Second?

Preston Allen

Second.

John Lant

All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

John Lant

Opposed? Carried. Thank you.

Karen Heggen

Thank you very much.

John Lant

Any other business? Speak at once.

Dick Lucia

Mr. Chairman.

John Lant

Yes.

Dick Lucia

Yep. Can I ask Karen a question?

John Lant

Yes, sir.

Dick Lucia

Karen, are you still collecting phones?

Karen Heggen

I'm sorry.

Dick Lucia

Are you still collecting phones?

Karen Heggen

Yes. We are still collecting phones for domestic violence victims. Thank you very much for asking.

Dick Lucia

Yes. Cuz I have some I'll be dropping off.

Karen Heggen

That'd be wonderful. Thank you so much Supervisor.

John Lant

Thank you.

Dick Lucia

You're welcome.

John Lant

Any other business? Want to make a motion to adjourn.

Preston Allen

So moved.

John Lant

Second?

Mike Smith

Second.

John Lant

All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

John Lant

Thank you all for coming.

Jean Raymond

Thank you.