

Public Safety Committee Minutes
March 2, 2022 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Mark Hammond; Committee Members, Scott Ostrander, Kevin Veitch and Mo Wright; Supervisor Tara Gaston; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Matt Rose, Audra Hedden, Stephanie Hodgson, County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, County Attorney; Michael Zurlo, Rick Castle, Sheriff; Andrew Blumenberg, Public Defender; Steve Bayle, Probation; Dawn Phillips, 18B Administrator; J. Wes Carr, Stop DWI; Penelope Heritage, Animal Shelter; Craig Hayner, County Clerk.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the minutes of the February 2, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wright, to amend the 2022 County Budget to reappropriate unspent New York State Homeland Security Grant funds under the Sheriff's Office. Unanimous.

Mr. Zurlo said that the total amount is \$85,159.05.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Veitch, to authorize an agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to accept a 2021 State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program Grant. Unanimous.

Mr. Zurlo said that the total amount is \$61,844.

A motion was made by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Veitch, to amend Resolution 234-2020 and authorize an amended agreement with Pittsfield Communications for installation and programming of additional 800 MHZ radio equipment and reappropriate unexpended funds. Unanimous.

Mr. Castle said that this will increase the cost of the contract which expired in 2021 to \$42,928.35 and will also re-appropriate unspent funds in the amount of \$10,689.87 from 2021 to 2022.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Veitch, to amend Resolution 146-2015 and authorizing an amended agreement with Jaqueline Bashkoff, PHD for the provision of expert psychological services to assist the Public Defender's office in the representation of their client. Unanimous.

Mr. Blumenberg said that this will increase the contract from \$20,000 to \$35,447. This increase is due to increased evaluations ordered by Family Court Judges in 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, to authorize the approval of the County's Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Performance Based Service Plan and accepting grant funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$26,224. Unanimous.

Mr. Bayle said that this is an annual housekeeping item. The grant is split between Probation and Employment & Training. Probation receives \$16,371 for pre-trial services and Employment & Training receive \$9,853 for community service hours.

Mr. Bulger announced that this is Mr. Bayle's last Public Safety Committee meeting as he is planning to retire within the next few weeks. Mr. Bulger thanked Mr. Bayle for his public service and said that he is not only a professional but a great guy. Mr. Wright congratulated Mr. Bayle and said that he did a great job during his tenure in the Probation Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wright, to authorize a reappropriation of funds related to the Animal Shelter's Canine Pavilion and amending the 2022 County Budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Ms. Heritage said that the reappropriation amount is \$155,187. Ms. Heritage said that they are already using the pavilion as basic construction is complete, they are just completing the finishing touches. A thank you video was done at holiday time to thank the many generous donors to the Trust Fund that paid for the pavilion.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Veitch, to authorize the acceptance of a third counsel at first appearance grant from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services and amending the 2022 County budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Ms. Phillips said that total amount of funding is \$346,290.06.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Wright, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Clerk of the Board