

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2009

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Lindsay, Suprenant, Scribner, Banks, Alexander, Henke

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Sady

SUPERVISORS: None

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Sheriff LeClaire

Undersheriff Mabb

Mike Mecure, Public Defender

Phyllis Cooper, Treasurer

Ray Rathbun, Fire Coordinator

Gary Evens, Deputy Fire Coordinator

Mike Gray, Alternative Sentencing

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2008
3. Presentation Regarding Colfax Tower – American Tower
4. Department Reports/Requests
 - A) Public Defender's Office
 - a. Budget Amendment
 - B) Sheriff
 - a. Budget Amendment – Speed Enforcement Grant
 - C) Fire Bureau
 - a. Juvenile Fire Starter Program Update
 - b. 2008 Fire Statistics Report
 - c. Training Center Update
 - D) Alternative Sentencing
 - a. 2008 Year End Report
 - b. Discuss Alive At 25 Program
 - E) EMS
 - a. EMS Advisory Board Appointment
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

Chairman Lindsay called the meeting to order at 1:00P.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.

Presentation Regarding Colfax Tower – American Tower – Melanie K. Kiely, attorney for American Tower, addressed the committee. The County entered into a contract with AT&T in 1992 and that contract is due to expire in 2012. Ms. Tyle stated they would like to renew and extend the contract out another twenty plus years. She has been in discussions with Bill Cook, Director of Public Safety. In our old system, this tower was not as important as it is now in how we transmit. She would like the County to partner with American Tower to continue our relationship. A copy of the original lease agreement was distributed, on file. She stated the County does have the option to buy the tower. Their customer contracts are usually for at least ten years. She proposed the following: equipment on tower at zero fee (eliminate the 33½% clause and reserve additional space for future expansion), \$9,000 annual rent after 2012 and continue with CPI increase and revenue sharing 15% with tenants on the site. If the County signs a non-disclosure, she will provide information on the rent paid by AT&T at this site. Roger Wickes, County Attorney, and Bill Cook, Director of Public Safety, will work on the details and communicate those to American Tower, Melanie Kiely. Bill Cook, Director of Public Safety, should come up with future needs at the tower.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – addressed the following item with the committee:

- Budget Amendment for 2008 Budget – Mike Mecure, Assistant Public Defender, stated the Public Defender is requesting a \$55,000 budget amendment for Family Court to cover 2008 year-end expenses. A motion to amend 2008 Public Defender budget in the amount of \$55,000 was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted.

SHERIFF – Sheriff LeClaire, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Annual Report – distributed, on file. Copies provided to all Supervisors.
- Budget Amendment – handout on file. The speed enforcement grant for Law Enforcement, Selective Traffic Enforcement Program STEP, was approved in the amount of \$20,534.00 and \$6,000 needs to be transferred from Traffic Safety to Sheriff's personnel. A motion to amend budget transferring \$6,000 from Traffic Safety contractual to Sheriff personnel (overtime) was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted.
- Operation IMPACT Tool Grant Funds – The grant is for \$30,000 to purchase a Live Scan fingerprint (machine) system. The Sheriff stated starting in 2010 the agency cannot submit physical fingerprints. This does not include pistol permit applications or the jail. This change in reporting fingerprints is a problem for county agencies and other police departments and grant funding is not available. He has spoken with the vendor, the hardware and software costs would be \$10,713 to allow other agencies to come in to the Sheriff's department and scan the prints. So the County is not bearing all the costs and to help out other agencies, he is proposing other agencies share in the cost \$1,785.50 each for all the police departments and Sheriff Department. He has been notified of award but the contract is forthcoming. This is not in the 2009 budget. A grant meeting will be held once he receives the contract. A motion to support and move forward with local police departments was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
- Staffing Review Request – He advised the committee of a request going before the Staffing Review Committee for additional part time deputies and LPNs because he needs a pool of candidates available to fill slots. Part time deputies are used for transport and road patrol and LPNs for the Jail.

FIRE BUREAU – Ray Rathbun, Fire Coordinator, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Juvenile Fire Starter Program Update – They are finalizing details of the program. No calls were received during the year regarding juveniles but near year-end he has received reports of a few kids that have started fires.
- 2008 Fire Statistics Report – handout attached.
- Training Center Update – handout attached. The Regulatory Feasibility and Sketch Plan are done and they are ready to move onto the site analysis and

concept plan. He stated the two counties need to meet to discuss moving onto site analysis. On the first phase, Regulatory Feasibility & Sketch Plan \$48,906, the Laberge Group is requesting an additional \$7,500 due to having to flag more areas but payment is pending the two counties meeting. The shared services grant deadline is March 31, 2010, spend by that date. A joint meeting will be scheduled to discuss these items. Phyllis Cooper, Treasurer, provided a financial update on this project: Capital Project established in the amount of \$170,000 (Warren County the same), expenditures to date total \$21,612, outstanding encumbrances \$39,000 for an unexpended/unencumbered budget balance in the project of \$108,000 and a cash balance of \$161,000.

➤ Miscellaneous:

- CDL Requirements for Fire Service – NYS DMV has stated that it is of the opinion the during “non emergency operations” fire apparatus are considered commercial vehicles and therefore require the operator to hold a CDL. This would affect fire departments returning from operations, conducting drills, public education and parades. A motion to present a resolution to oppose requirement for CDL for operation of emergency vehicles was moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.
- Fire Advisory Board Appointments – The Fire Advisory Board has recommended the following individuals for appointment. A motion to approve appointments to the Fire Advisory Board:
 - Craig Hansen Easton Fire Dept.
 - Gary St. Mary Greenwich Fire Dept.
 - George Flint Hebron Fire Dept.
 - Nelson W. Chase, Jr. Kingsbury Fire Dept.
 - Dennis McDonald Middle Falls Fire Dept.
 - Joseph Weaver Salem Fire Dept.

was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING – Mike Gray, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- 2008 Year End Report – Mike distributed and highlighted items in his annual report, on file. Copies provided to all Supervisors.
- Discuss Alive at 25 Program – “The Driver Education Class specifically designed for 16-24 year olds focusing on specific age related risks such as inexperience, speeding, peer pressure, texting, cell phones, distractions, alcohol/drug usage etc.” The attached handout details this proposed program. They would conduct a pretest and a post-test to determine what they have learned and if they need to repeat the program. The fee for the instructor would be out of the out of the \$50 charge and the remainder will cover administrative costs. A motion to authorize the Alive @ 25 program was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Bill Cook, Director, was not available for today's meeting due to attendance at a State Emergency Managers conference but forwarded the following items:

- Staffing – at full staffing level, with the return of staff from military leave and from a sick leave.
- Signed lease from NYS DOT for rental space on Burch Hill \$4,800 for 2008 rent and \$5,040 for 2009 rent.
- Amp Issues – Amp issues but they are up and running as of February 6th. Official testing yet to be completed.
- Annual Report will be presented at March committee meeting.
- FEMA – working with FEMA on storm reimbursements for southern towns Dec. 14, 2008. Damages in excess of \$1.2M.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – Chairman Lindsay addressed the following items:

- EMS Advisory Board Appointment – A motion to appoint Harry Skidmore, Granville EMS, was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
- Letter of resignation from Mark Spiezio, EMS Coordinator, effective April 1, 2009. The EMS Advisory Board recommends Bruce Mason for appointment as EMS Coordinator. A motion to accept resignation of Mark Spiezio and appoint Bruce Mason, EMS Coordinator, effective starting April 1, 2008 (coordinate with payroll date) was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted. Mr. Scribner stated that from talking with Bruce Mason and Paul Zimm that there is not a need for an EMS 3. The EMS Coordinator will need to address that matter with the Public Safety Committee.
- EMS Advisory Board – Roger Wickes, County Attorney, stated that the EMS Coordinator does not work for the EMS Advisory Board. He works for the Board of Supervisors and is the liaison between the Board of Supervisors and the EMS Advisory Board. This position was created by resolution in 1994 and the term of office in the resolution was for one year. The original Board resolution was for one year but the law allows for one, two or three year appointments. It is up to the Board of Supervisors to determine the term of the appointment. He recommends the Board of Supervisors formally establish three-year terms. Regarding the EMS Advisory Board being subject to the open meetings law, he feels the EMS Advisory Board can make some determination on their own (i.e. patient protocol) and he needs to look at this further to determine whether they are subject to the open meeting law. These items will be addressed with the new EMS Coordinator.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A motion to enter an executive session for discussion of the proposed lease of real property was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.

The committee adjourned from executive session. No action was taken during the executive session.