

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2010

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Lindsay, Suprenant, Banks, Henke, Pitts, Gordon

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Hall

SUPERVISORS: LaPointe, Rymph, Idleman

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Ray Rathbun, Fire Coordinator

Al Caprood, Deputy Probation Dir.

Bruce Mason, EMS Coordinator

Mike Gray, Alternative Sentencing Dir.

Lt. Tucker, Sheriff's Dept.

Bill Cook, Director Public Safety

Michael Mercure, Public Defender

Bill McCarty, Code Enforcement Adm.

Nick Riesman, Post Star

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2010
3. Department Requests/Reports:
 - A. Code Enforcement
 1. Discuss Refund of Permit Fee – Town of Whitehall
 - B. Sealer of Weights & Measures
 1. 2010 Travel Requests/Plan
 - C. Sheriff
 1. Budget Amendment for Grants
 - a) Traffic Safety Grant
 - b) Buckle Up Grant
 - D. Public Safety
 1. Discuss Purchase of Equipment – Digital Recorder
 2. 2010 Travel Plan
 3. Public Officials Conference
 4. Miscellaneous
 - E. Alternative Sentencing
 1. Community Service Program Update
 - F. Fire Bureau
 1. Training Center Update
 2. 2010 Travel Plan
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

Chairman Lindsay called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2009 meeting was moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Bill McCarty, Administrator, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Discuss Refund of Permit Fee – Town of Whitehall – Bill stated he received correspondence from an individual who obtained a building permit requesting a refund of that fee due to a change in their status of employment from when the permit was issued. The permit fee amount is around \$500.00. Bill stated in the past with similar situations, the County's practice has been not to refund permit fees. A motion to continue with practice of not issuing refunds, request denied, was moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted. Bill will send a letter notifying the person of the denial.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES – Bill Adamson, Sealer, addressed the following item with the committee:

- 2010 Travel Request – Bill submitted his annual travel plan, attached. This is a budgeted expense. A motion to approve Sealer of Weights & Measures 2010 annual travel request, NYS Weights & Measures Training School in Syracuse June 14 – 18, was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Gordon and adopted.

SHERIFF – Lt. Tucker addressed the following items with the committee:

- Selective Traffic Enforcement Program & BUNY 2010 Buckle Up New York Grant – Lt. Tucker stated the Sheriff is requesting two budget amendments related to the above-mentioned grants. A motion to move \$6,900 from Traffic Safety grant to Sheriff's Department overtime and to increase 2010 Sheriff's Department personal services by \$4,480 from the Buckle Up grant was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
- Tour of the Battenkill Bike Race Coverage – Mr. Pitts asked how much overtime does the Sheriff's Department expect to pay in relation to coverage of the Tour of the Battenkill Bike race. Lt. Tucker stated he is using all part time personnel and the expense will come out of the part time budget. He estimates approximately \$600.00 per weekend. The regular shift will be on working as well.
- Pistol Permit Background Checks – Kevin Hayes, County Administrator, stated a 2010 budget amendment is needed to recognize funds regarding the Live Scan program. The County had to provide the state with funds in escrow and the budget needs to be amended to recognize the expense and the revenue from the permit fees. The County collects approximately \$115 for the fingerprinting through the Live Scan program for a pistol permit; the state fee is \$105 and the County retains \$10.00. The escrow fund amount is proposed to be raised to \$10,000. This budget amendment request will be forwarded to the Finance Committee for consideration.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Bill Cook, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Digital Recorder, \$49,999, handout attached. – After demonstration of two digital recorders, Bill is recommending purchase of the NICE system under NYS contract at a price of \$49,900. This is to replace his eight-year old aging recording system and will be purchased with grant funds. The monies are in the budget and a grant meeting will be set up. A motion to authorize expenditure of grant funds to replace digital recorder, purchase of NICE system, was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Gordon. Discussion. Kevin asked what he planned to do with the old system. Bill stated junk it. The system had a five-year life span and it has been failing for several years. Kevin mentioned the Village of Hudson Falls could be offered it. Bill stated he hates to offer it to them because there are a lot of problems with the machine. A motion to authorize expenditure of grant funds to replace digital recorder, purchase of NICE system, was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Gordon and adopted.
- 2010 Travel Plans – Staff attends three conferences annually and these expenses have been included in his 2010 budget, handout attached. A motion to approve 2010 travel plans was moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted.
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- 911 Surcharge Monies – The Senate and Assembly were looking to decrease the amount coming back to the counties. The counties currently receive approximately \$50M of those funds and the Senate and Assembly are discussing reducing that amount to \$8M. The committee discussed how they should notify, phone calls to, our local officials of our concern. A motion to present a resolution opposing any reduction in surcharge funds was moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.
- MOA on the Companion Animal Sheltering Equipment (CASE) - Saratoga County applied for a grant for a companion animal emergency sheltering equipment trailer. Saratoga County had to partner with two other counties to share use of this trailer. The grant was approved. There is no cost to the county. A motion to present a resolution to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign a memorandum of agreement with Saratoga and Warren counties for the Companion Animal Sheltering Equipment grant was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
- Hartford Fire Department – Bill stated that the Hartford Fire Department will continue with the lease for storage of the hazmat vehicle for an additional year at the same rate, \$300/month. A motion to renew that lease amount was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted.

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

- Community Service Program Updates - Mike updated the committee on the 2010 community service projects: painting Hartford highway department, town building in Argyle finish up, county weld shop is doing some foundation work and then they will paint, continue same rotation with mowing and also opening both parks and maintaining Lake Lauderdale. Several one-day community clean up days have been scheduled. They are always working at the fair and transfer stations. At the Fort Ann lock, some trees were removed. Additional work includes straightening cemetery stones, Cambridge Senior Center work and they have started to identify items for the reuse center and that will be followed by notification that it is open to the public. They still need to work out liability issues and it will be staffed by an AmeriCorp worker. The items will come out of the waste stream but the people will have to pay for the disposal of the item. He is tracking costs of the various projects. Community Service referrals for the first quarter are down 50% due to changes in the DA Office with new staff but they do see them coming back up.
- 2010 budget projections – He stated they are currently about \$1,100 short. He will report out after the state budget is approved.

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

- Fire Training Center – Appropriations were put in and Congressman Murphy and Senator Schumer reported that the appropriations have moved into step 3 of 5. The sub committee is meeting and addressing any questions. Hopefully, it will move along.
- 2010 Travel Plans – handout attached. A motion to approve 2010 travel plans was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Temporary Part Time Typist for Probation – Al Caprood, Probation Supervisor, requested a temporary part time typist due to a part time typist out with medical issues and they are unsure how long she will be out, handout on file. A motion to forward to Staffing Review recommending approval, temporary part time typist, was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Gordon and adopted.

NYSEG – Easement Request – Tower in Hebron – NYSEG is requesting an easement to relocate a pole on our property. The request included \$1 for consideration of this easement request. A motion to grant easement to NYSEG – Hebron tower site - was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.

District Attorney Budget Amendment – Kevin stated the DA has a grant for video recording received in 2009 and needs to be recognized in the 2010 budget. A motion to recognize District Attorney video recording grant in 2010 budget and referred to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted.

Adoption of Hazard Mitigation Plan – The NYS Emergency Management Office approved the plan on May 11, 2009 and expires after one year if not adopted. If adopted, the plan is covered for the five-year planning cycle: doing so provides access to the various mitigation project grants that SEMO and FEMA provide. A motion to present resolution for adoption of Hazard Mitigation Plan was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 A.M.

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