

**Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: May 4, 2015 – 5:30 PM
LOCATION: COB, 6th Floor, Karen Binder Library
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman TJ Briggs
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk/Confidential Secretary
PRESENT: Legislators Fabiano, Provenzano
ABSENT: Legislators Ronk and Wishnick
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Carl Belfiglio, Sheriff Van Blarcum, Under Sheriff Freer

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Motion No. 1: RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of the April 6th and April 15th meetings

Motion Made By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2: Resolution Nos. 197, 198, 199, 200 and 201 – May 19, 2015

Text of Motion: Resolved to consider Resolution Nos. 197, 198, 199, 200 and 201 as a block – Confirming re-appointments to the Ulster County Arson Task Force

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 3: Resolution Nos. 197-201 – May 19, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution Nos. 197-201** – Confirming re-appointments to the Ulster County Arson Task Force

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Resolution Nos. 197-201 Summary: These resolutions confirm the re-appointment of Wayne Freer, Paul Casciaro, Kevin Keller, Charles Mutz and Frank Petrone, respectively, to the Ulster County Arson Task Force.

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 4: Resolution No. 202 – May 19, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 202** – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services – Aid To Prosecution – District Attorney

Motion Made By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Resolution No. 202 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with DCJS for funding in the amount of \$85,050 for an Aid to Prosecution grant.

Discussion:

Legislator Fabiano asked if this was money for an ongoing program. Chairman Briggs confirmed that it was.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 5: Resolution No. 203 – May 19, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 203** – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Aid To Defense Program – Department Of Public Defender

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Resolution No. 203 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with DCJS for funding in the amount of \$10,800 for an Aid to Defense grant.

Discussion:

Chairman Briggs advised the committee that this money was also a grant for an ongoing program.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 6: Resolution No. 204 – April 21, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 204** – Authorizing the Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Rondout Valley Central School District To Provide A Deputy Sheriff As A School Resource Officer – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution No. 204 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Rondout Valley School District to provide a Deputy Sheriff as a School Resource Officer.

Motion Made By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Sheriff's Report

Chairman Briggs acknowledged Sheriff Van Blarcum to discuss his Board In and Telephone Revenue report for the month of April. Sheriff Van Blarcum shared his opinion that he believed that a Department Head from any department that has a resolution before the committee should be present to answer any questions the members might have.

Sheriff Van Blarcum advised the committee that his office hustled for the month of April to get the Board In revenue knowing that it would stop because Dutchess county has completed the construction of their temporary housing pods. He said the jail averaged 71/day in April and thus far in May they are averaging 23/day. He added that his budget

was estimated at 20/day, so he is still ahead and will be fine for 2015. He will be using the numbers from May forward to develop his 2016 budget. Regarding the telephone revenue, he advised the committee that there is a push on the federal level from the Regulatory Commission to stop charging inmates for phone calls. He said a decision was due around September. Legislator Provenzano asked if the Federal Government was planning on supplementing the lost revenue. Sheriff Van Blarcum replied there were no such plans and that the jail could stop offering a phone service, but that would lead to inmate rioting. He advised the committee that Orange County was going to be offering video call which were not overseen by the regulatory commission and would be charging \$15 - \$10 per "visit." Sheriff Van Blarcum continued by saying that the amount of money made from the calls isn't much, but the information gained from listening to the calls is priceless.

Chairman Briggs informed the committee that information on the Sheriff's Awards Banquet to be held on Friday, May 15th was included in their meeting materials.

Old Business

Chairman Briggs reminded the committee about questions from a previous meeting regarding the installation of cameras in and around the County Building. He advised the committee that the project was included in the 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Program. He added that, as Sheriff Van Blarcum mentioned, the decision on camera installation and placement began during meetings a few years back with former Legislator Jack Hayes' request for cameras in Legislative Chambers and other Legislators requesting cameras for the parking lots. Legislator Provenzano asked if there were any cameras in the Legislative offices. Chairman replied that there were not. He added that the cameras were included as part of the 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Program. Sheriff Van Blarcum commented that the video was not held long enough in his opinion. He said it was only being held for 30 days. Legislator Fabiano asked the Sheriff for his opinion on how long the video should be kept. Sheriff Van Blarcum responded at least 6 months and said it was easy to save.

Chairman Briggs asked if the Sheriff had anything to add to last month's conversation about the grievance issue that Legislator Wishnick brought up. Sheriff Van Blarcum responded that he emailed information to committee members and reiterated that the issue was with Dutchess County and not Ulster.

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any other old business. There was none.

New Business

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any new business. He thanked Sheriff Van Balrcum for his assistance in the Wawarsing/Ellenville area lately.

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any other business and hearing none.

Adjournment

Motion Made By:	Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Provenzano
No. of Votes in Favor:	3
No. of Votes Against:	0

TIME: 5:47 PM

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of June, 2015

Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: June 1, 2015