

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

DATE & TIME: January 31, 2018 – 5:30 PM
LOCATION: COB, 6th Floor, KL Binder Library
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairwoman Mary Beth Maio
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Haynes & Ronk
ABSENT: Legislators Collins, Eckert & Fabiano
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Nolan, Sheriff Van Blarcum, Lt. Soule, Lt. Fullford, Sgt. Story, Det. Tagliaferro – UC Sheriff's Office, Acting Director Schmidt – UC Probation Department, Director Peterson – UC Emergency Management/Communications, Director Hargrove – UCAT, Tom Kadgen – LWV, Jeremy Russell & Ilona Ross – members of the public

Chairwoman Maio called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Motion No. 1: Moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the December 5, 2017 meeting

Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes APPROVED**

Resolutions for the February 13, 2018 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 33: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Legal Services Of The Hudson Valley – Department Of Probation

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley in the amount of \$100,000 to provide legal services to victims of domestic violence who have been referred by the Ulster County Crime Victims Assistance Program.

Motion No. 2: Moved to **ADOPT Resolution No. 33**
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion:

Chairwoman Maio asked Ulster County Probation Department Acting Director Nancy Schmidt to give some background on the program. Ms. Schmidt explained that the funding is for the county's Crime Victims Assistance Program for domestic violence victims. Victims are referred to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley for assistance with civil matters, Family Court, or visitation and custody issues. She stated that the money came out of the Legislature and was initially put in their budget in the 2016 Budget. Chairwoman Maio asked the members if they had any questions. Hearing none, she thanked Ms. Schmidt for her time.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 13: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Walker Valley Chemical Engine No. 1 For The 2018 Appropriation – Legislature

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 with the Walker Valley Chemical Engine No. 1 to be expended towards costs associated purchasing heat resistant wall panels for the Walker Valley Fire Department burn tower.

Motion No. 3: **Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 13**
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 25: Appointing And Reappointing Members To The Ulster County Fire Advisory Board

Resolution Summary: This resolution appoints and reappoints members of the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board.

Motion No. 4: **Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 25**
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion:

Chairman Ronk stated that he was pleased that Legislator Haynes would be serving on the Board as one of the Legislative representatives. He added that Legislator Lopez has also agreed to serve if the Minority Leader did not have a minority member who wished to serve. He said that the Advisory Board members truly appreciate having a member of the Legislature present at meetings.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 32: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – PMC Associates – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with PMC Associates in the amount of \$95,685.01 for the replacement and upgrade of all communications cables in the mobile command center.

Motion No. 5: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 32
Motion By: Legislator Haynes
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Discussion:

Lieutenant Soule explained that the Mobile Command Center was purchased in 2006 and the communications wiring was original and needed to be replaced and/or upgraded to accommodate the current equipment. Sheriff Van Blarcum added that the Mobile Command Unit is not strictly used by the Sheriff’s Office. Ulster County Emergency Management, Fire Services, the State Police, and other law enforcement and first responder agencies use it. Chairman Ronk added that the unit spent a lot of time at the recent wildfires. Lieutenant Soule informed the members that the cost of the upgrade was being covered by grant funding.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 39: 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 Prosecution Program – District Attorney

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with NYS DCJS in the amount of \$79,380 for the Aid to Prosecution Program for the period October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018.

Motion No. 6: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 39
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion:

Chairwoman Maio thanked Chief Assistant District Attorney Michael Kavanagh for attending and asked him to give an overview of the program. ADA Kavanagh explained that the grant from DCJS provides funding to supplement the salaries of veteran, seasoned prosecutors to incentive them to stay, as opposed to leaving the DA's Office for higher paying positions in private practices.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 40: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement And Any Amendments Thereto, With The City Of Kingston For Hazardous-Materials Response Services – Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with the City of Kingston in the amount of \$75,000 (\$15,000 annually for a period of five years) to extend hazardous materials response services beginning August 19, 2017.

Motion No. 7: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 40
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion:

Chairwoman Maio thanked Emergency Management/Emergency Communications Director Peterson for attending the meeting and asked him for an overview of the agreement. Director Peterson advised the members that the County has had an agreement with the City of Kingston, who has a trained Haz Mat response team, for many years. He added that the team responds to situations that require assessment and/or cleanup of things like chemical or oil spills.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 41: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The Department of Justice For Asset Forfeiture - Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Department of Justice for asset forfeiture reporting.

Motion No. 8: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 41
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion:

Lieutenant Soule explained that the Resolution authorizes the Chairman to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with NYS DCJS to allow for electronic asset forfeiture reporting using their new Eshare system.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 42: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Amendment To A Lease Agreement With The Town Of Wawarsing For A Substation Of The Ulster County Sheriff's Office – Department Of Public Works (Building & Grounds)

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to amend the lease agreement with the Town of Wawarsing for the Sheriff's substation at the Joseph Y. Resnick Airport, Ellenville, NY for an annual rent of \$312.

Motion No. 9: Moved to ADOPT Resolution No. 42
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion:

Chairman Ronk advised the members that the total yearly rent totaled \$312. He added that the space had been provided in the past free of charge, but that FAA regulations had changed. Sheriff Van Blarcum stated that his office attempted to negotiate for a rent waiver in exchange for the security that the presence of a substation provides. Chairwoman Maio questioned how the amount was determined. Legislator Haynes responded that she believed the amount was based on square footage.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Maio & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Chairwoman Maio advised the members that a copy of the year end summary of Ulster County Jail Board-In and Telephone revenues was provided in their meeting materials. Sheriff Van Blarcum noted that the revenue projections for the year were met and slightly exceeded. He informed the members that they continue to look for new opportunities to take in inmates from other correctional facilities, but that he was unwilling to put inmates in harm's way. He explained that a problem was encountered recently when inmates were boarded from Rikers Island. The inmates were members of warring gangs which was not disclosed to Ulster County.

Chairman Ronk asked how the tablets were working out. Sheriff Van Blarcum responded that they were not making a lot of money from the tablets, but they have definitely improved behavioral issues with the inmates. He added that the tablets were purchased with grant funds.

Chairwoman Maio asked the members if they had any old or new business to discuss. Sheriff Van Blarcum asked the members to contact him in advance of a committee meeting if they had any questions on a resolution pertaining to his office so that he could come to the meeting prepared to answer them. Chairman Ronk encouraged the members to take a tour of the Jail and/or participate in a ride along to see first-hand the operations of the Sheriff's Office.

Chairwoman Maio informed the members that she would be highlighting upcoming events throughout the county at the end of each meeting. She asked the members to let her know if there was anything happening in their districts and she would have it added to the meeting agenda.

She shared a flyer for an event in Highland on Thursday, February 1st with the committee. The event is called "Not My Child" and is being hosted by the Highland Central School District, Town of Lloyd Police Department and the Highland Rotary Club.

Chairwoman Maio asked the members if they had any other business. Hearing none she advised the members that the next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6th at 5:30 PM.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 5:46 PM
Respectfully submitted: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
Minutes Approved: March 6, 2018