

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

DATE & TIME: August 31, 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, Ronk, and Wishnick
ABSENT: Legislator Provenzano
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Under Sheriff Freer, Steve Petersen, Director – UC
Emergency Communications/Management

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

Motion No. 1: **RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of the August 3rd meeting**

Motion Made By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wishnick

Discussion:

None

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

Motion No. 2: Resolution No. 326 – September 15, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 326** – Requesting
Establishment Of Cash On Hand Fund – Ulster Regional Gang Enforcement Narcotics Team
(URGENT)

Motion Made By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wishnick

Resolution No. 326 Summary: This resolution increases the cash on hand fund established for URGENT task force to equal \$33,000.00.

Discussion:

Legislator Wishnick asked Under Sheriff Freer to clarify if the funds being discussed were used to purchase drugs. Under Sheriff Freer replied that the money was used to pay confidential informants and buy guns as well as to buy drugs. He added that \$20,000 in marked and documented bills is kept in a safe and only used in the event URGENT needed a large sum of money quickly. He said that \$13,000 is available for day to day buys while leaving the \$20,000 untouched in the safe.

Legislator Wishnick asked how the \$13,000 figure was determined and asked if any opportunities may have been missed because that wasn't enough. Under Sheriff Freer responded that the dollar amount was determined through conversations with the Comptroller and added that he did not feel that any opportunities were missed because the \$20,000 in the safe was available if needed. He added that most transactions were between \$100 - \$1,00 dollars.

Legislator Wishnick asked how the fund is replenished. Under Sheriff Freer explained that the funds are replenished through asset forfeiture money as well as annually through the URGENT budgeted amount of \$10,000. Legislator Ronk added that a lot more than \$10,000 is recouped through asset forfeiture.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Ronk and Wishnick
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	4
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Motion No. 3: Resolution No. 347 – September 15, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 347** – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Participation Agreement, And Any Amendments Thereto, With The New York State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For Participation In The Local Emergency Management Performance Grant Program For Federal Fiscal Year 2015 Amending The 2015 Ulster County Budget – Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Resolution No. 347 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for participation in the Local Emergency Management Performance Grant Program in the amount of \$73,665.00.

Discussion:

Chairman Briggs recognized Steve Petersen, Director of the Ulster County Office of Emergency Management/Emergency Communication to explain what the grant was to be used for. Mr. Petersen explained that the funding primarily covers payroll for most of Emergency Management and some day to day activities. He added that the biggest thing being worked on in the office at the present time was hazard mitigation. Legislator Ronk asked if this was the same program that required coordination with the towns that had a mitigation plan. Mr. Petersen responded that it was and that each town must file their plan with his office in order to qualify for FEMA funding.

Legislator Ronk asked for a list of the Towns that do and do not participate. Mr. Petersen advised him that information was available on the Emergency Management website. He added that there were 12 municipalities that participated in 2009 and it appeared there were going to be 15 after the update.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Ronk and Wishnick
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	4
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Motion No. 4: Resolution No. 348 – September 15, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 348** – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement And Any Amendments Thereto, With The New York State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For The 2015 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Amending The 2015 Ulster County Budget – Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

Motion Made By: Legislator Fabiano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Resolution No. 348 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the 2015 State Homeland Security Program in the amount of \$270,000.00.

Discussion:

Mr. Petersen explained that the funds were going to be used to purchase containment booms to assist with mitigating potential crude oil spills. He added that they were planning to span the Rondout Creek twice to provide for double containment in case something happened with the trestle. He continued by saying that the booms could be used in other locations, but that the primary location was the Rondout.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Ronk and Wishnick
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	4
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Chairman Briggs thanked Mr. Petersen for his time. Legislator Ronk asked Mr. Petersen if he could offer any update on the upgrade for high band for the radio towers. Mr. Petersen responded that the Simulcast was in the process of being installed with the Kingston and Sam’s Point towers already complete. He said the target date for completion is the mid- end of October.

Legislator Wishnick asked if there was any update on the upgrades to the radio systems. Mr. Petersen replied that there is a Capital Project for upgrades to begin in 2017. Legislator Fabiano asked if the Fire Commissioners were being kept abreast of the progress. Mr. Petersen said that they were and that he attends the quarterly meetings of the Fire Districts’ Association. He added that the Fire Chief’s Association is also active and kept updated on the progress. Legislator Ronk complimented Mr. Petersen on his interaction with the different Fire Departments and the improved relations.

Motion No. 5: Resolution No. 349 – September 15, 2015

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 349** – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into A Lease Agreement With Pine Professional Center For Offices Of U.C. Probation – Department Of Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Resolution No. 349 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to enter into a lease with Pine Professional Center in New Paltz for use by Probation Department for three years at a cost of \$\$20,700.00.

Discussion:

Chairman Briggs advised the committee that he had an email from Deputy County Executive Sudlow saying that this is the same lease the county has had since 1999 and that approximately 275 people in that area are served by the office.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Fabiano, Ronk and Wishnick
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Sheriff's Report

Chairman Briggs recognized Under Sheriff Freer to give the monthly report. Under Sheriff Freer advised the committee that they were still trending down for Board In and Telephone revenue after the opening of the pods in Dutchess County. He added that they are still on track to meet the budget projections. Chairman Briggs advised the committee that the telephone revenue number cannot be calculated until the first on the moth and therefore did not appear on the report.

Old Business

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any old business. None was offered.

New Business

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any new business. Legislator Wishnick asked for an update on the animal law. Chairman Briggs advised the committee that the attorneys were working on some of the language and definitions. Legislator Ronk informed the committee that he and Legislator Archer were meeting the next day with Legislative

Counsel, Minority Counsel and the County Attorney's Office to address concerns brought up by individuals following the public hearing and that it appeared a new public hearing would be required on the Pet Sellers local law.

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

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 5:58 PM

Respectfully submitted this 5th day of October, 2015

Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: October 5, 2015