

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

DATE & TIME: December 4, 2014 – 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 Gregorius, Loughran, Maio and Ronk
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislative Counsel Weiner, Deputy County Executive Sudlow, From the Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Van Blarcum, First Lieutenant Soule, Chief Civil Officer McGovern, and Major Becker

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

Motion No. 1: RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of November 3, 2014 Meeting.

Motion Made By: Legislator Gregorius
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio
Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Gregorius, Maio
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2: RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of November 12, 2014 Special Meeting.

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk
Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Gregorius, Loughran, Maio and Ronk

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Sheriff's Report

Chairman Briggs brought the committee's attention to the Sheriff's report.

Sheriff Van Blarcum advised the committee that they are right on target as they have been for the last 8 years.

Motion No. 3: Resolution No. 471 – December 17, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 471** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Aramark – Ulster County Sheriff

Motion Made By: Legislator Gregorius

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Resolution No. 471 Summary: This resolution approves a contract amendment in the amount of \$713,798.52 with Aramark to replace a retiring county employee with an Aramark cook.

Discussion:

Legislator Maio asked for some clarification about the cook position referred to in the contract.

Sheriff Van Blarcum introduced Major Becker who explained that there were 2 county employees serving as cooks at the time the Sheriff's Office entered into the contract with Aramark. The contract specified that, through attrition, the county cooks would be replaced with Aramark cooks upon retirement. He further explained that one county employee retired last year and that the cost for the new cook would be funded through a cost per meal increase by about \$0.08/meal. The county employee was making ~\$70,000/year with benefits while the Aramark cook would cost the county ~\$39,000.

Legislator Maio asked how many other cooks this contract effects and when they would be retiring.

Major Becker responded that there was one other cook but could not guess when they would be retiring.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Gregorius, Loughran, Maio and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 4: Resolution No. 472 – December 17, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 472** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Motorola Solutions – Emergency Management

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Loughran

Resolution No. 472 Summary: This resolution approves a contract amendment in the amount of \$58,996.44 with Motorola for the repair and maintenance of the consoles and radios at Emergency Management.

Discussion:

Sheriff Van Blarcum stated again his feeling that the committee should not pass resolutions unless someone from the department is present to answer questions and not someone from the County Executive’s Office. He complimented Emergency Management Director Steve Peterson, but felt that he should be present at meetings.

Chairman Briggs asked the committee what they would like to do on the resolution and asked Deputy County Executive Sudlow if it was critical to pass the resolution tonight.

Deputy County Executive Sudlow first responded to Sheriff VanBlarcum’s comments by stating that he felt that the Sheriff should be at the meetings because he is an elected official and further said the he gave Mr. Peterson the “night off” because he has been busy responding to emergencies the past week and weekend.

He advised the committee that the resolution was a contract for the repair and maintenance of the consoles and radios at emergency management.

Legislator Ronk asked if the resolution covered repair and maintenance of the towers as well or if it was just for the consoles and radios.

Mr. Sudlow responded that towers were not included and that the contract spelled out exactly what was covered.

Legislator Ronk asked if both high and low band radios were covered since both fire and emergency were referenced.

Mr. Sudlow responded that all of dispatch was included.

Legislator Ronk asked how the county would be affected by Motorola no longer servicing low band. Mr. Sudlow responded there would be none.

Legislator Maio asked if this contract was renewed each year and if the amount in this contract was the same as last year.

Mr. Sudlow replied that the contract is renewed annually and that there was a 3% increase. He then provided some background on the three levels of response.

Legislator Loughran echoed the Sheriff's comment about having someone from the Department present to answer questions.

Legislator Gregorius asked what the county's level of satisfaction has been with this service.

Mr. Sudlow responded that the county was pleased with the service and would be working with them in the future during tower upgrades.

There was a brief discussion about tower upgrades throughout the county.

Chairman Briggs asked the committee if there was any more discussion on the resolution and reminded the committee that the Ways & Means committee would also be considering the resolution if there were any other questions that the committee wanted answered.

Legislator Ronk asked Mr. Sudlow if, in the future, Mr. Peterson might be able to send something to the committee in writing if he could not attend the meeting. Mr. Sudlow agreed.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Briggs, Gregorius, Loughran, Maio and Ronk
Voting Against:	None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Old Business

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any old business.

New Business

Chairman Briggs advised the committee that on January 21st at 1 PM in the medical department at the Jail the Sheriff's Office would be having the MAC quarterly meeting with the CMC. January 22nd at 1 PM is the snow date. He distributed copies of the meeting announcement to committee members.

Legislator Loughran provided a copy of a draft Local Law he received earlier in the day from the County Attorney regarding billing inmates' insurance carriers for medical and dental services.

Chairman Briggs handed copies of the draft local law and asked the committee how they would like to move forward with it.

The committee agreed that they would review the draft and discuss it at the next meeting.

Legislator Ron asked for clarification on how the committee was moving forward with the discussion of the Sheriff's suspended warrant check policy; if there were going to be joint committee meetings, or just the Laws & Rules committee?

Legislative Counsel Weiner advised the committee that Legislator Bartels instructed him to draft a resolution on building security which will be considered by the Laws & Rules Committee at their December 15th meeting. All are welcome to attend the meeting or to contact Counselor Weiner with their thoughts.

Motion No. 5: RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of November 18, 2014 Special Joint Meeting of the Law Enforcement & Public Safety and Public Health & Social Services Committees.

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

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

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any other business.

Adjournment

Motion Made By:	Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Gregorius
No. of Votes in Favor:	5
No. of Votes Against:	0

TIME: 5:51 PM

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of February, 2015

Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: February 3, 2015