

PUBLIC SAFETY & LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FRAZIER, WILBER, STAMMEL, FARWELL, OBERACKER
April 16, 2019

Absent: Representative Stammel and Representative Oberacker

SHERIFF- RICH DEVLIN, CAMERON ALLISON

Rich Devlin requested approval to hire back a Corrections Officer at Step 4, the rate of pay which he was previously at when he left 2 months ago. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Rich Devlin requested approval to send two Supervisors to the Jail Administrators Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY in September at a total cost not to exceed \$1400. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Rich Devlin requested approval to transfer \$20,000 from Sheriff Equipment 3110.2000 to Jail Equipment 3150.2000 for radios. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Rich Devlin requested approval to purchase portable radios for the Jail from Finger Lakes Communications in the amount of \$55,000 out of line 3150.2000 and off of NYS Contract PT67405. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

The committee asked the Sheriff to reach out to Rob O'Brien on any funding that may be available to help purchase the radios.

Rich Devlin requested approval to purchase portable radios for the Jail from Finger Lakes Communications in the amount of \$7,800 out of line 3110.2000 and off of NYS Contract PT67405. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Rich Devlin requested approval to purchase a Thermal Imaging device at a cost of \$4,200 out of line 3110.2000. Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Rich Devlin discussed the new criminal justice reform passed by NYS noting that it will place an undue burden on law enforcement and prosecutors, it will tie up resources, will make NY less safe, it is full of unfunded mandates which will have a financial impact on law enforcement and prosecutors budget requests for 2020, there will be no cost savings for daily operations of the Jail, staffing levels will remain the same if the Jail has 30 inmates or 100 inmates, the additional costs of this will far outweigh any savings that can be anticipated.

Rich Devlin asked for an update on his request for a Resolution bringing closure to the investigation of the Sheriff's office as he has not heard anything. Representative Frazier stated that he will contact Roemer and the Board Chair to get an answer.

Rich Devlin stated that his subpoenaed records were picked up but there are some copied records and DVDs that are missing. Rich Devlin stated that a list of what is missing was submitted to the Personnel Director but he has not gotten an answer on where they are.

Representative Farwell asked what percentage of the Jail Budget is a local cost? Rich Devlin stated that the Jail budget is 100% local costs and the Sheriff's budget is 98% local.

Rich Devlin stated that Addiction Recovery Services staff member is now doing individual and group counseling services at the Jail.

Rich Devlin discussed the contract with Trinity noting he had a conference call last week, they started yesterday and he is working on language for the contract with the County Attorney.

Rich Devlin gave an update on the Jail renovations noting that the award letters were sent out, they are waiting on the Commission for final approval, and there is no timeline yet.

The committee and Rich Devlin discussed the recent auction at the Cooperstown Holstein Corp. noting that there were no problems, it is prime property with a lot of possibilities, and a 2nd exit for all traffic would be ideal for County Highway 33W.

Representative Frazier discussed recognizing Deputy Grimes for his efforts at a recent accident.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Representative Frazier read an update from the newly appointed Public Defender, Michael Trossett noting the following: he has met with the Judges, hopes to have a Public Defender in every Court, challenges of CAFA and filling the CAFA positions, the after hour arraignments, and lowering the use of 18b Attorneys.

PROBATION- DAN NAUGHTON

Dan Naughton gave an update on the ballistic vests purchased noting that they were approved for the grant to cover 8 out of the 10 vests and will be getting reimbursed \$3,115.

Dan Naughton stated that he will post the 2nd funded Probation Assistant position noting that this position will be a victim liaison to reach out to victims, give the victims more of a voice, and help the community.

Dan Naughton gave an update on a Probation Officer being able to carry a firearm full time once again per the Judge and will be re-certifying next week.

CAC- DENISE OLIVER

Denise Oliver requested approval to send 7 MDT members to the 31st Annual Crimes Against Children Conference, August 12-15, 2019 in Dallas Texas at a total cost not to exceed \$5,561 including conference fees, meals, and lodging, noting it is budgeted and fully reimbursed by the State. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Denise Oliver requested approval to attend the National Children Alliance's Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. along with the new staff person if they are able to go, in June, at a total cost not to exceed \$2500 including registration fees, lodging, meals, and mileage. Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

E-911- ROB O'BRIEN

Rob O'Brien requested approval to attend the Spring 911 Coordinators Conference on May 6th-May 9th, 2019 at a cost of \$120 for registration and \$119 per night for 3 nights of lodging noting the funds are available in Lodging, Meals, and Tolls line 3020.4010. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Rob O'Brien asked the Committee to support him sponsoring a Youth Baseball Team for the 2019 season in the name of "Otsego County 911", with sponsorship costs to be paid directly by the 911 Director (no County funds). The committee had no objections.

Rob O'Brien requested approval to fill a vacant funded Dispatcher position. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

The committee asked Rob O'Brien if there are any grant funds to help the Sheriff's Department purchase and upgrade their radios. Rob O'Brien stated there is not any grant money available at this time the only other option would be to use Chase Financing money. The committee did not feel that was a good option.

EMERGENCY SERVICES –ART KLINGLER

Art Klingler emailed the March mileage reports for OC1 and OC2 prior to the meeting.

Art Klingler requested approval to fill a vacant funded Deputy Fire Coordinator Position due to an upcoming retirement. Art Klingler noted it is an M/C Position, does not have to be posted, it covers a specific portion of the County (Unadilla/Wells Bridge), and anyone interested must be a County resident per Civil Service Law. Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded Wilber. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

Art Klingler discussed a fire extinguisher training request from Glimmerglass Opera for them to use our equipment. The committee and Art Klingler discussed the following including but not limited to:

- it's a public service
- ask the County Attorney
- should a price be set?
- Train them how to use it
- Should develop a policy

Art Klingler informed the committee he will be declaring 2 vehicles surplus, a 2012 and 2015 F-250 for trade in to Enterprise at tomorrow's Public Works meeting.

Art Klingler gave an update on the traffic trailer project with the County Highway noting that these trailers will be purchased through grant funding, they

can be used for road closures for the Highway and local Fire Departments, and the Oneonta DOT has a couple of them he is looking at.

Art Klingler gave an update on the fire training center RFP noting that it went out on 3/19/19, the responses were due back 4/15/19, 13 companies were interested in the project but no bids were received back. Art Klingler stated he will reach out to the 13 companies to see why they did not bid.

Art Klingler gave an update the AMR transition noting that they are bringing additional staff in from Syracuse to address the shortage in staffing levels.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY- JOHN MUEHL

The County Attorney, Ellen Coccoma, Probation Director, Dan Naughton, Sheriff Rich Devlin and Undersheriff Cameron Allison joined the meeting.

John Muehl discussed concerns with the new state law on discovery that would make it so defense attorneys and prosecutors need to have evidence and material available within 15 days of arraignment, it will increase the workload significantly for the DA's office, it will take at least an hour to review every misdemeanor/felony, it's a huge unfunded mandate, no benefit to the residents of this County, and the DA's office will need to have 1 new FT Assistant District Attorney before 2020.

Sheriff Rich Devlin and Under Sheriff Cameron Allison stated that with the body camera program, it takes at least 20 minutes per ticket to retrieve the footage for evidence and there are around 2,000 tickets per year.

Dan Naughton, Probation Director, stated that with the cashless bail, the Judge can give any conditions to the individual which will increase his department's work load and increase Electronic Monitoring costs to the County. Dan Naughton stated that he will need another officer for his department due to this unfunded mandate.

Ellen Coccoma stated that this will affect the CAFA program numbers by decreasing the number of people that need Attorneys.

PERSONNEL- PENNEY GENTILE

Penney Gentile gave an update on the stipends for Gar Gozigan and James Ferrari noting they will continue until Michael Trosset's start date of 4/22/19.

The committee and Penney Gentile discussed setting a probationary term for the Public Defender noting that 4/22/19-12/31/19 is adequate.

The committee chose Friday, May 10th, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at the County Office Building as the date for the next committee meeting.

COUNTY ATTORNEY- ELLEN COCCOMA

Representative Farwell moved for an executive session to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,486; Ayes: 1,429; Absent: 1,057- Stammel and Oberacker. Motion carried.

The committee adjourned while in executive session.