

# **PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING**

**September 6, 2022**

The regular meeting of Public Safety, Probation, Office of Emergency Services, Coroner, and Stop DWI was held in the Legislative Conference Room at the Ronald E. Dougherty Office Building, 56 Main St., on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 2:30 PM.

## **Present:**

Dennis Mullen	Chair, Public Safety
Barb Roberts	Legislator
William Standinger	Legislator
Stew Bennett	Administrative Coroner
Brian Cain	Director, Probation
Sheriff Gary Howard	Sheriff's Office
Mike Simmons	Director, Emergency Services

## **Guest:**

Pete DeWind	County Attorney – <i>in at 2:40</i>
Cathy Haskell	Clerk of the Legislature

## **Absent:**

Edward Hollenbeck	Legislator
Marte Sauerbrey	Chair, Legislator
Bob Williams	Deputy Director, Emergency Services

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

### **Approval of August 2, 2022 minutes:**

Legislator Roberts made the motion, seconded by Legislator Standinger, to approve the August 2, 2022 Public Safety minutes, as written. Motion carried.

## **PROBATION – Brian Cain:**

## **FINANCIAL:**

Budget is on track. Over \$200,000 in restitution has been collected to date.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Community Service: Waiting for more orders to come in so there is enough participants to start up another ATI crew.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Staffing: 1 Probation Officer position remains vacant pending Civil Service results.
2. Training: Discussed Fundamentals of Probation Practice and Peace Officer training scheduled in Albany for October.
3. Collaboration with Tioga Career Center: an Employment Liaison position will be in the Courtroom starting in October.
4. Joint training with TCDSS: Met with Elizabeth Myers, Social Services Director, to finalize joint trainings with Probation.
5. Approval of STSJP and State Block Grant monies: Approved by State in August. Still waiting on Raise the Age money which is 2 years behind.

## **PERSONNEL:**

1. One vacant Probation Officer position exists.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- **Resolution to Approve STSJP Contract for SFY 2022-2023 Probation as Lead Agency for Application for Funding via STSJP**

A resolution was presented requesting authorization to contract with the Office of Children and Family Services for STSJP funding.

*\*\*Committee agreed to move this resolution forward \*\**

**CORONER – Stew Bennett:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- **Amend 2022 Budget Contingency Transfer Request Medical Examiners & Coroners**

A resolution was presented requesting authorization to transfer \$25,000 from Contingency to A1185.540370 Medical Expense.

- **Authorize Contract Between Riverside Forensic Pathology, PLLC and Tioga County**

A resolution was presented requesting authorization to contract with Riverside Forensic Pathology, PLLC upon approval of the County Attorney.

*\*\*Committee agreed to move these resolutions forward \*\**

1. Coroner Bennett explained that the cost of autopsies have increased from \$950 to \$1,100. The County Attorney has reviewed the contract for autopsies.
2. Coroner Bennett would like the Committee to consider giving him an increase in salary due to the increased caseload. There have been 119 cases so far this year. Legislator Mullen instructed Coroner Bennett to bring a resolution to the Committee next month.

**SHERIFF – Gary Howard:**

**FINANCIAL:**

- Revenues are at \$513,752.96 which is 99.7% of the budget. Inmate boarders account for \$339,818 which is at 227% of the budget.
- Expenditures are at \$7,001,589 which is 67% of the budget.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Itouch Implementation – integration is still ongoing.
- Spillman Implementation – updates are ongoing.
- Tru-Narc training is October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- 2023 Budget Review

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Jail Camera Project is ongoing.
- MAT Planning: This was supposed to start in September but has been delayed pending hiring an individual.
- Pistol Permits and New Gun Laws: the Sheriff briefly discussed new gun laws. We have been getting quite a few inquiries about the new state mandates which has resulted with us dealing with many disgruntled gun owners.

**PERSONNEL:**

- Update on Vacancies:
  - Civil – all positions are currently filled.
  - Corrections – 5 vacant Corrections Officer positions; 2 vacant part-time Cook positions
  - Road Patrol – no Deputies are on light duty
    - 2 Deputies are attending the police academy (1 at Corning and 1 at Broome).
    - There are currently 1 vacant Deputy position and 2 unfunded Deputy positions.
  - Records – all positions are filled.
  - Administration – all positions are filled.
  - 911 Center - summarize

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- Authorize 2022-2023 Contracts with SADD School Associates STOP DWI  
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to contract with the school associates for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Approve 2023 STOP DWI Plan  
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to approve the 2023 STOP DWI Plan.
- Authorize the Submission of the 2022-2023 NYS STOP DWI High Visibility Engagement Application STOP DWI  
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to apply for the 2022-2023 NYS STOP DWI High Visibility Engagement Application.
- Authorize the Acceptance of the NYS 2021-2022 PSAP Operations Grant and Modify 2022 Budget  
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to accept the NYS 2021-2022 PSAP Operation Grant.

*\*\*Committee agreed to move these resolutions forward \*\**

**OFFICE of EMERGENCY SERVICES – Mike Simmons:****FINANCIAL:**

- Budget is on track.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Radio Project: Looking for landowners to put a tower on their property. RFPs were issued for the shelters and towers. No bids were received for the towers due to the shortage of steel needed to build the towers. Prospect Hill tower will be utilized now. Legislator Mullen inquired if Mike Simmons needed to go to Chicago to participate in the testing process. This will be discussed further.
- CAD Project: Cars (laptops) need to be completed. Software will be entered into the laptops.
- EMS: Received recommendations from the study. Director Simmons summarized the changes.
- Fire: Manpower shortages continue to be an issue with a number of fire departments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- EMS Officers Meetings:

- Public Assistance workshop will be this fall for town supervisors.
- Two Tier 3 emergency management classes will be scheduled.
- Citizen preparedness classes will be held as well.
- Multi-hazard for schools will be held in October.
- Tioga Downs Emergency Planning: will meet with Operations Personnel to develop emergency plans.
- Radio System Failure: Has occurred twice since August. Recent event may be related to a lightning strike. The phone line went down between Carmichael and Public Safety.
- Onondaga County Contract: Spoke to one of the attorneys from Broome County to see what they changed on their contract. A resolution will be brought forth next month.
- Threat Assessment Management (TAM) – mandate from State that each county has to come up with a plan to identify terroristic threats from individuals.
- Electric Cars: there is no way to put the fire out. Guidance instructs us to let them burn. Lithium batteries are water reactive. Electric storage unit in Barton will be full of lithium batteries. Guidance is to let the building burn if it catches on fire.

**PERSONNEL:**

- EMS Coordinator: To be discussed in executive session.
- Deputy Director F/T Position: To be discussed in executive session.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- Authorize the Submission of FY2022 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Application Office of Emergency Services  
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to apply for the FY2022 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant application and authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to sign such application.

*\*\*Committee agreed to move this resolution forward \*\**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Legislator Mullen made a motion, seconded by Legislator Standing, to go into executive session at 3:32 PM to discuss Emergency Services personnel. In attendance was Legislators Mullen, Roberts, and Standing; Director Mike Simmons; Legislature Clerk Cathy Haskell; and minute taker Diane Rockwell. Motion Carried.

Executive Session adjourned at 3:49 PM – motion made by Legislator Mullen, seconded by Legislator Standing. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Diane Rockwell*

Diane Rockwell  
Secretary to the Sheriff  
9/6/22

