

PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

January 2, 2024

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, January 2, 2024 at 3:30 PM.

Present:

Keith Flesher	Chair, Public Safety
Barb Roberts	Legislator
Marte Sauerbrey	Chair, Legislator
William Standinger	Legislator
Brian Cain	Director, Probation
Sheriff Gary Howard	Sheriff's Office
Mike Simmons	Director, Emergency Services

Guest:

Pete DeWind	County Attorney
Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk
Curtis Hammond	EMS Coordinator, Emergency Services

Absent:

Dale Weston	Legislator
Corinne Cornelius	Deputy Director, Emergency Services

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of December 5, 2023 minutes:

Legislator Roberts made the motion, seconded by Legislator Standinger, to approve the December 5, 2023 Public Safety minutes, as written. Motion carried.

PROBATION – Brian Cain:

FINANCIAL:

- Expenditures are at 82.4% of the budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Training – Two Probation Officers are attending Basic Peace Officer Training.
- Awarded \$60,000 from DCJS – Money should be received by the end of the month and will be used to purchase iPads.
- Incentives for Juvenile caseload – purchased bowling bag and shoes.
- Modifying existing conditions of Probation Sex Offenders to require they register their devices which access the internet with IPPC Technologies.
- Highlights of 2023:
 - Collaboration of various agencies
 - Three good vehicles were received.
 - AlcoTags were included in the electronic monitoring contract.
 - Shredded old records to be in compliance with the Records Retention Schedule
- Goals & Changes for 2024
 - Presence in community – working on a pamphlet for community outreach.
 - Rekeying the back entry door

- Fully staff probation
- Decision Points – hope to be in 2 schools by the end of year.
- MOU for monitoring sex offenders technology
- Prepare implementation of Clean Slate Act
- Upgrade Waverly satellite office
- Juvenile Delinquency Services – one appearance ticket was issued in December. A total of 17 Juvenile appearance tickets were received this year.
- Electronic Monitoring – four individuals are being monitored.
- Pre-Trial Release – 18 people are in this program.
- Court Ordered Investigations – there are 49 cases.
- Violation of Probation – 13 defendants are in violation.
- Legislator Standinger commended Director Cain for coming up with creative ways to do things.

PERSONNEL:

- One vacant Probation Officer II position exists.
- One unfunded Probation Office position exists.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Reclassify and Fill Vacant Position
A resolution was presented requesting approval to reclassify and fill one vacant Probation Officer II position to a Probation Officer I position.

(Committee agreed to move this resolution forward)

SHERIFF – Gary Howard:

FINANCIAL:

- Revenues are at \$592,786 which is 86% of the budget. Expenditures are at \$12,034,956 which is 101% of budget due to deputies retro contracts and corrections retro contracts. Inmate boarders are at \$293,786 which is 196% of the budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jail daily population for October was 42; there are 6 federal inmates and 2 board ins from other counties.
- Litigation is still ongoing.
- A new eviction process is being implemented. Sheriff explained the new procedures in which we need to lock the place up to retain the contents.

PERSONNEL:

- Update on Vacancies:
 - Civil:
 - One vacant part-time Civil Deputy position
 - Corrections:
 - 1 Corrections Officer positions
 - 1 part-time Cook positions
 - 1 Corrections Officer on light duty
 - 2 Corrections Officers are on military deployment.
 - Road Patrol:
 - No vacant Deputy positions – one is starting the police academy January 2024
 - No Deputies on light duty

- There are 2 unfunded Deputy positions which are being filled January 2024
- Communications:
 - 2 vacant E911 Dispatcher positions
- Records:
 - All positions are filled.
- Administration:
 - All positions are filled.

RESOLUTIONS:

- None

OFFICE of EMERGENCY SERVICES – Mike Simmons:

FINANCIAL:

- Budget is on track.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Communications Project:
 - Surveying has been conducted on the tower sites.
 - Motorola VESTA phone system - 2 laptops will be utilized for backup center.
 - XYBIX – will be meeting with them and Motorola to determine installation; want to integrate furniture with consoles and new equipment to lessen disruption in Dispatch.
 - Radio Tower site – Ballou Rd. – need to put a building and generator there. Motorola will design and get NYSEGs approval as they own the tower.
 - Connect Tioga Dispatch to Broome County Dispatch – will need to get with Jeremy.
 - Prospect Hill – county owns the tower; it needs a driveway built. Prices are around \$30,000. May need to go to bid.
 - Spencer tower site – looking at sharing the driveway. Director Simmons will talk with Attorney Lanouette.
 - Richford, South Apalachin and Nichols tower are progressing without any issues.
 - Candor tower – NYSEG power is not heavy enough to supply power to the new building. If the heating and AC turn on at the same time, we have to shut one down. Will need to have the power upgraded.
 - CAD Project – State Police are starting to show a car on the map.
 - Candor EMS mobile data terminal - mapping is not working yet.

EMS:

- Curtis Hammond gave an update as he continues to work on a plan to improve EMS in the county.
- The northern part of our county is looking at 20-30 minutes response time or possibly 45 – 60 minutes, depending on where the ambulance is coming from.
 - There's a trickle-down effect if we go with the other agency; Maine could not respond at all. Then we would rely on mutual aid. Have talked with Tompkins and Broome County. If you're contracted by a town to provide ambulance service to the taxpayers, they will say they paid to have this ambulance here and want it to stay in their area.
 - It looks like down the road the county may need to buy an ambulance and put an ambulance service on. Talked with Niagara County and Chautauqua County which recently got an ambulance service.
 - Fly cars are a temporary solution. Need to start looking at a 24/7 ambulance down the road funded by the county. Legislature Sauerbrey asked if you need a plan for a fly car or would that be part of

the mutual aid plan that we have now? Also, who would decide who is responding? Curtis stated we would just be added into the plan and Dispatch would decide who is going to respond.

- Municipal certificates were discussed.
- Director Simmons asked if we should start putting a plan together.
- The committee discussed how an ambulance study was done in the past.
- The cost of a new ambulance is \$240,000 and \$120,000 for equipment.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

- Threat assessment – Corinne will be back in a month and she will work on this.

FIRE:

- No Chiefs meeting last month due to holidays.
- Shortage of volunteers is resulting in multiple fire departments being called to a fire. Working on a plan where dispatchers would automatically page staff for calls.

PERSONNEL:

- Working with Personnel to revise the EMS Coordinator position to accurately reflect the job duties.

RESOLUTIONS:

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Legislator Flesher made a motion to go into Executive Session at 4:35 PM; seconded by Legislator Roberts, to further discuss ambulance services in Tioga County. Legislator Standinger motioned to adjourn at 5:06 PM; seconded by Legislator Roberts.

In attendance were Legislator Flesher; Legislator Roberts; Chair Sauerbrey; Legislative Clerk Cathy Haskell; County Attorney Pete DeWind; EMS Coordinator Curtis Hammond; and Emergency Services Director Mike Simmons.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Rockwell

Diane Rockwell
Secretary to the Sheriff
1/2/24