

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY
LAW ENFORCEMENT & JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
(JOINT MEETING WITH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & COMMISSION ON AGING)
FEBRUARY 9, 2009**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Emergency Management Larry Greschner, Matt Matteson (Representing Commission on Aging Committee), David O'Melia (Representing Law Enforcement Committee), Jack Martinson and Sonny Paszak.

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS/COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Dean, John 'Jack' Young, Peter Wolk (Representing Law Enforcement and Commission on Aging Committees), Patricia 'Patsy' Peters, William Schell, Jeanette Pederson, Maxine Meyer, Mary Martin and John Hoffman.

OTHERS PRESENT: Giles Morris (Rhineland Daily News), Richard Moore (Lakeland Times), Bob Brusco, Chief Deputy John Sweeney, Curt Krouze (Building & Grounds Director), Dianne Jacobson (Department on Aging Director), Clarence Puza, Ken Korten Hof, Emergency Management Director and Dawn Robinson, Program Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Greschner called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. in the County Board Room at the Oneida County Courthouse. Chairman Greschner further noted the meeting notice had been posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law. Chairman Greschner noted accommodations would be made for handicap accessibility.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the Amended Agenda (Martinson/Paszak, PASSED).

The Law Enforcement Chairman (O'Melia) called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. Representing Law Enforcement Committee: O'Melia, Dean and Wolk. MOTION: To approve the Agenda (Wolk/Dean, PASSED).

The Commission on Aging Vice-Chairperson (Martin) called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m. Representing Commission on Aging: Martin, Meyer, Schell, Peters and Pederson. MOTION: To approve the Agenda (Schell/Pederson, PASSED).

Representing the Emergency Management Committee: Greschner, Paszak and Martinson.

It was noted each Committee would receive a copy of today's minutes for approval.

EVALUATION OF DEPARTMENT SPACE NEEDS

The Emergency Management Director informed members of the Department on Aging, Law Enforcement and Emergency Management Committees that space needs were discussed at the January 29th Emergency Management meeting. The condition/purpose of both River Street Buildings were discussed.

The Building & Grounds Director indicated Emergency Management utilizes 3,500 square feet at the River Street Building and is full to capacity, no room available for additional equipment or future expansion of space for HazMat needs. The advantages of having the Department on Aging busses, Law Enforcement property and Emergency Management vehicles/trailers/equipment under one roof at the Law Enforcement Center was discussed.

The Chief Deputy provided history of storage at the River Street location. In 1997, the county asked the Sheriff to utilize the River Street Building, as a short-term solution for space needs rather than storing property at a different location. In September 2008, the full County Board of Supervisors listed department space needs in the County's Capital Plan. The Chief Deputy suggested reviewing the Capital Plan to replace the building, conduct an assessment of space needs and address/discuss the results with the County Board of Supervisors. The Chief Deputy recommended moving forward with the proposal.

The Law Enforcement Committee Chairman stated it does not make sense for emergency response vehicles to be stored across town, at the River Street location, while Emergency Management Office is located at the Sheriff's Department, response time issue.

The Emergency Management Director addressed security issues with housing vehicles at the River Street location verses housing vehicles at the Law Enforcement Center.

Dean (Law Enforcement Committee) addressed priorities of a storage building verses a senior citizens building, inquired about the Committee established to assess the Department on Aging building project, indicated this was poor timing but supported the proposal of relocating emergency vehicles.

There was discussion regarding whether the Committee (assigned to assess Department on Aging building) was still in existence/active.

The Law Enforcement Chairman indicated storage for Emergency Management and Law Enforcement was a separate issue from the Department on Aging Building assessment and questioned whether Department on Aging would be included on assessing space/storage needs.

Jacobson (Department On Aging Director) informed members the Committee tasked to assess the DOA (Department on Aging) building was on hold until after the Human Service assessment was completed. The Director mentioned the request is to have Building & Grounds start looking at the issue of space needs but stated seniors are a priority.

The Chief Deputy indicated property stored at the River Street building has already been processed and requested storage of equipment and property be stored at a suitable location. Law Enforcement Committee discussed space/storage needs and

requested the issue be referred to the Building & Grounds Committee to assess adequate storage space while keeping other priorities in perspective with the county's long-term capital plan.

Dean (Law Enforcement Committee) felt issues could not be separated and expressed concern with not knowing the outcome of Human Services (and the building).

Peters (Commission on Aging) stated times are tough and the county needs to be run like a business. Peters was concerned with money being spent at this time and felt a survey does not need to be conducted.

Matteson (Commission on Aging) agreed with both issues, storage needs should be evaluated, architect assessment evaluation should be completed so when time is right, the County can act. Matteson recommended proceeding with a study.

Meyer (Commission on Aging) asked when the Jail was built if provisions were made for storage.

The Chief Deputy explained due to budget constraints, the County Board of Supervisors eliminated storage space from the Law Enforcement Center's garage in the Law Enforcement Center Budget.

Schell (Commission on Aging) felt the DOA (Department on Aging) building and space/storage needs were two different issues, reiterated Department on Aging needs space for citizens, addressed evacuation and expressed concerns with prioritizing.

John 'Jack' Young (Law Enforcement Committee) and County Board Supervisor John Hoffman joined the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

The Emergency Management Committee Chairman reminded members the space needs issue was the only topic to be discussed/addressed.

Martinson (Emergency Management Committee) recommended proceeding with an assessment.

Schell (Commission on Aging) reiterated this could be done as a complete unit (storage facility as a DOA housing capability) and develop something to encompass both.

The Emergency Management Chairman cautioned members and reminded them they can only address space needs and noted if the issue involved people, more Committees and Department Heads would be involved.

Dean (Law Enforcement Committee) cited there are two separate issues, acknowledged there is a problem with buildings, expressed concern with priority shifting from senior citizens to space needs and stated both issues cannot be neglected.

The Law Enforcement Committee Chairman stated both issues could be addressed at the same time and explained the purpose of today's meeting was to decide if the county/Committees wanted to pursue acquiring professional services to assess space needs.

The approximate cost of acquiring studies/assessments was discussed.

The Law Enforcement Chairman affirmed both Law Enforcement and Emergency Management need more space and noted the Law Enforcement Committee could not address the DOA (Department on Aging) building issue.

The Emergency Management Chairman stated the Emergency Management Committee could not address the DOA (Department on Aging) building issue.

Martin (Commission on Aging) stated DOA (Department on Aging) buses could remain in the River Street building as long as the building holds up, is not opposed to conducting an assessment of space needs but does not want to spend a lot of money for planning as the County board spent money on an assessment and would like to hold costs down.

Dean (Law Enforcement Committee) referred to the Committee on hold, suggested contacting the Committee on hold regarding information and let the Committee on hold make recommendations to the County board. Dean felt the County should be open to every solution.

The Emergency Management Chairman asked if either the Emergency Management Director or the Chief Deputy have had any dialog with the Committee on hold.

The Chief Deputy, through Law Enforcement Committee, asked the Department on Aging Director if they have a long-term plan for bus storage and was informed they do not. Since then, the Law Enforcement Committee has included the collocation of space needs with Emergency Management and Department on Aging. Storage space issue does not encompass the same issue as the Committee on hold that is conducting the Human Service study. The Chief Deputy reiterated space needs is listed in the Law Enforcement Strategic Plan and the County board listed space needs in the County's 2008 Long-term Capital Needs Plan.

The Emergency Management Director reiterated the Committee on hold is assessing the DOA (Department on Aging) building and not assessing space/storage needs.

The Department on Aging Director stated the DOA (Department on Aging) building was the first priority.

Matteson (Commission on Aging) thought the Committee on hold exceeded the six-month time period and was no longer active. The Department on Aging Director explained the Committee on hold had a six-month window and then was placed on hold until after the DOA (Department on Aging) Senior Citizen building issue was completed.

The Department on Aging Director referred back to the Chief Deputy's recommendation asking Building & Grounds Committee to look at storage space needs on River Street Buildings and see where the project fits in the future.

Dean (Law Enforcement Committee) felt all county properties/buildings should be considered, not just one. Reference was made to government funding/continuing services.

The Emergency Management Chairman stated the Committee was not asking the Building & Grounds to limit their scope and affirmed the Committee was examining long-term space needs.

Meyer (Commission on Aging) agreed with the Emergency Management Chairman.

Wolk (Law Enforcement Committee) declared only the agenda item should be discussed, stated the reason for this meeting is to discuss storage space needs and noted this issue has nothing to do with the DOA (Department on Aging) building. Wolk acknowledged the need for space/storage needs, suggested every department be contacted and asked if they need additional space/storage, involve Building & Grounds, meet with Committees to evaluate/review county space needs and security of property.

The Law Enforcement Chairman suggested consulting with Corporation Counsel regarding drafting a resolution and forwarding resolution onto the County Board of Supervisors. The Chairman affirmed one Committee could not tell another Committee what to do.

There was discussion as to which Committee (Emergency Management and/or Law Enforcement) would bring a resolution forward for action and it was noted DOA (Department on Aging) has no concerns with the current location of buses and do not require additional space.

The Emergency Management Chairman directed the Emergency Management Director to list department storage/space needs on the next agenda.

The Emergency Management Director informed members Senator Holperin was looking to fund projects and asked if a letter could be sent to the Senator to put this project (storage/space needs) on his radar screen. The Emergency Management Chairman indicated no authority could be given today.

Martinson (Law Enforcement Committee) suggested discussing Senator Holperin's request for projects to fund at the County Board of Supervisors meeting and inquired about resolution verbiage.

There was discussion whether the resolution and/or Holperin's letter should or should not proceed to the County Board of Supervisors.

Paszak (Emergency Management Committee) suggested listing a response to Senator Holperin on the next Emergency Management Agenda.

Matteson (Commission on Aging) agreed to submit a letter due to the possibility of projects being funded on a first come-first serve basis.

The Emergency Management Chairman authorized the Emergency Management Director to send a vague letter of proposed project stating formal action has not been taken by Committees of Jurisdiction.

The Law Enforcement Chairman informed members no motion was necessary to instruct a letter to be sent to Senator Holperin.

The Department on Aging Director asked if projects were specifically tied into Homeland Security for infrastructure, if so, then incorporate the DOA (Department on Aging) building. There was discussion regarding a Shovel Ready Project.

The Law Enforcement Chairman stated the Law Enforcement Committee and the Emergency Management Committee may present a joint Resolution to the County Board of Supervisors and informed members it is up to each Department Head to draft a Letter of Interest to Senator Holperin.

Martin (Commission on Aging) reiterated if the River Street Building would no longer exist, then DOA (Department on Aging) would require storage space for their buses. Martin is not against the storage/space needs proposal but hopes the county can keep costs down.

Hoffman (County Board Supervisor) addressed stimulus money package, lack of infrastructure funding, mention he had just attended a Finance Committee in which Department Heads may be asked to cut expenses.

11:35 a.m. MOTION: To adjourn the Law Enforcement & Judiciary Meeting (Young/Wolk, PASSED).

11:36 a.m. MOTION: To adjourn the Commission on Aging Meeting (Peters/Meyer, PASSED).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was given.

ADJOURN

11:37 a.m. MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Matteson/Martinson, PASSED).