

LAW ENFORCEMENT & JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

December 2, 2009

9:00 A.M.

Chairman O'Melia called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in Committee Room #2, at the Oneida County Courthouse.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman David O'Melia, Vice Chairman Peter Wolk, Member Paul Dean, Member Ted Cushing, and Member Jack Young.

OTHERS PRESENT: Recording Secretary Jill Butzlaff, Sheriff Jeff Hoffman, County Coordinator John Potters, Finance Director Margie Sorenson, Clerk of Court Gina Olson, Building & Grounds Director Curt Krouze, Emergency Management Director Ken Kortenhof, Branch I Judge Patrick O'Melia, and Kevin Boneske, Rhinelander Daily News.

Motion by Cushing to approve the amended December 2, 2009 agenda as posted, second was offered by Dean, all ayes on voice vote; the motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Wolk to approve the November 18, 2009 minutes as presented, second was offered by Dean, all ayes on voice vote; the motion carried 5-0.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / ACTION:

Sheriff's Department - Storage Facility

Chairman O'Melia noted this topic is not specific to the Sheriff's Department, but pertains to an Oneida County storage facility. Buildings & Grounds Director Curt Krouze, Sheriff Jeff Hoffman, Emergency Management Director Ken Kortenhof, and Finance Director Margie Sorenson were present. Krouze distributed a draft report and some drawings created by Ayres Associates to the Committee. Krouze indicated the draft has already been changed based upon discussions between Krouze, Sweeney, and Kortenhof. Krouze indicated he is also waiting for an appraisal on the River Street facility. Krouze stated the study indicates that current storage areas are insufficient. Krouze noted that the exterior of the building would need to be addressed to determine if the new construction should be integrated with the appearance of the current structure.

Brief discussion followed regarding the status of the new Department on Aging facility and the location of the proposed storage facility. Krouze noted that if emergency vehicles were stored in a different location than the Law Enforcement Center, response times would need to be considered.

Sorenson presented an amortization schedule based on 10 or 20 years for \$3,000,000. Sorenson indicated she would recommend borrowing the money and paying it back over 10 years. Sorenson noted the cost to the taxpayer would be approximately \$50.00 total (over ten years) on a \$100,000 home. Brief discussion followed regarding the use of the general fund versus borrowing the money. Sorenson noted she prefers to borrow the money for this size project.

Krouze noted the proposed storage facility would require some maintenance, but would likely not have a significant impact on his staff. Potters questioned whether other County Department space needs were considered in this study. Krouze indicated that other offices were not considered, but there are other changes taking place that could address those space needs. Krouze noted the storage

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

December 2, 2009

Page 2

facility design does include some planning for the future. Discussion was information only, no action taken.

Clerk of Courts - Vacancy Review - Court Clerk

Clerk of Court Gina Olson, Branch I Judge Patrick O'Melia, and County Coordinator John Potters were present. Olson asked if the Committee would waive the six month waiting period for the court clerk position. Potters noted the Committee reviewed a similar vacancy a few months ago, but stated that the Committee needs to look at the overall budget picture at this time and stick with the County Board recommendations. Brief discussion followed regarding the impact of the position remaining vacant for six months. Olson stated the shortage would be difficult especially during these difficult financial times when people are filing their own court papers. Judge O'Melia reiterated that many people are filing pro se, and the paperwork is labor intensive. Olson noted that Oneida County statistically has a lower number of clerks compared to other counties. Olson stated that the clerks are required to leave the office when the judge requires a clerk in court. This may leave one staff member to run the office, or if necessary, they may need to close the office.

Motion by O'Melia to approve the vacancy and forward to Labor Relations and Employee Services, second by Wolk. On roll call vote: O'Melia aye, Dean nay, Cushing nay, Wolk aye, Young nay. Motion failed 3-2.

Olson questioned when she could return to the Committee. The Committee indicated Olson could return at any time. Potters noted if Olson waited three months, by the time the position is filled the six month period may have lapsed. Judge O'Melia questioned what would need to change in three months, and how much of a negative impact would need to arise. Olson noted she may need to accept passports during limited hours in the office which could directly impact revenues. Potters stated that County Board was aware that services could be delayed when making the recommendation to leave positions vacant for six months.

Register in Probate - Training for New Register in Probate

Judge O'Melia indicated that applications close on Friday. O'Melia requested a one week overlap to assist in the training of the new employee.

Motion by Cushing to approve the one week overlap, second by Dean, all ayes on voice vote; the motion carried 5-0.

AUDIT OF ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENTS

Following examination and discussion of all vouchers, BPO Reports, and all other financial information submitted by law enforcement departments, the following motions were made:

Cushing made a motion to approve the line item transfer, second by O'Melia; all ayes on voice vote; the motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Cushing to approve all vouchers, BPO Reports, and other financial information as submitted by law enforcement departments, second by Wolk, all ayes on voice vote; the motion carried 5-0.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

December 2, 2009

Page 3

DISCUSS TOPICS FOR NEXT AGENDA / SET DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting was scheduled for:

January 6, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/DISCUSSIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

There were no other public comments or discussions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before this committee, Cushing made a motion to adjourn with a second by O'Melia, all ayes on voice vote; the motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE SECRETARY jab