

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
April 20, 2017**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ted Cushing, Bob Metropulos, Mitch Ives, Billy Fried, Chairman Mike Timmons.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Gerry Van Harpen and Karilyne Roberts from Hodag Country Festival, Brian J. Desmond (Corporation Counsel), Kathy Belliveau (Branch I), Clerk of Courts Brenda Behrle, Register in Probate Amy Franzen, District Attorney Mike Schiek, Jennifer Allen (Branch II), Emergency Management Director Ken Kortenhof, Sheriff Grady Hartman, County Clerk Tracy Hartman.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Timmons called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Oneida County Courthouse, Committee Room #2, stated the meeting notice had been posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law, and noted accommodations would be made for handicap accessibility.

APPROVE SECOND AMENDED AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the Second Amended Agenda (Cushing/Fried, PASSED).

APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the March 9, 2017, Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes (Metropulos/Fried, PASSED).

SCHEDULE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE(S)

The next meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2017.

BILLS, VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

MOTION: To approve bills, vouchers, and line item transfers for Public Safety Departments (Fried/Metropulos, PASSED).

Discussion regarding personal vouchers. Discussion if items were in budgets. Fried asked in dealing with medical expenses, if there was any talk at the courts or at Sheriff's Office of having negotiations with any local providers. Desmond reported that the person might not always stay local, so we get the price we get. Fried thought it could be possible to negotiate, since we have the ambulance contract through St. Mary's. Desmond reported that St. Mary's told him they were no longer performing those services, and the jail has a contract thought Aspirus.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Victim/Witness Conference in Wisconsin Dells May 17-20, 2017

DA Schiek requested approval for Denise Briggs to attend. DA Schiek stated this is the annual conference and it is required by the state that Briggs attend. The \$65 registration fee is in his budget.

MOTION: To approve the attendance of Victim/Witness Coordinator Denise Briggs at the Victim/Witness Conference in Wisconsin Dells May 17-20, 2017 (Cushing/Fried, PASSED).

LARGE ASSEMBLY

Hodag 50 Country Festival

County Clerk Hartman reported the Hodag 50 Country Festival application was the same as last year, the only change being the dates to July 8-16, 2017 (Exhibit 1).

MOTION: To approve the application of Hodag 50 Country Festival to be held July 8-16, 2017 (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

Fried asked Sheriff Hartman if there were any issues at Hodag that needed to be addressed. Sheriff Hartman stated no, Hodag Festival personnel and the Sheriff's Office work well together. Fried asked about the certificate of insurance. Clerk Hartman reported that would be provided closer to the event in July.

Harley Fall Ride

Clerk Hartman reported that paperwork had not been turned in yet for this event, and had just been informed that the organizer of the event had passed away yesterday. Clerk Hartman reported Ken Kortenhof will assist in finding out who will be in charge of the event and that right now, the town is up in the air about who will be in charge or if they will even hold the event.

CIRCUIT COURT BRANCH I

2016 Budget Closeout Line Item Transfers

Belliveau reported there was a miscommunication between herself and Jen Allen from Branch II. Everything was completed and turned into Darcy in Finance, but papers never made it to this committee. Cushing saw no issues if Darcy already signed the paperwork.

MOTION: To formally approve the 2016 Budget Closeout Line Item Transfers for Branch I (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Emergency Management and Sheriff's Office Merger, Resolution #20-2015

Timmons reported this was brought up due to confusion if the resolution was re-reviewed and made a final done deal. Timmons reported that Dawn Robinson from Emergency Management sent committee members a copy of the resolution with dates, information of resolution, etc. There was discussion regarding trial periods and finalization of resolution. Sheriff Hartman reported that this merger could be reviewed

again if needed. Fried asked if the merger was working and Hartman stated it was working well. Fried stated he was worried EM would drain the Sheriff Office budget. Hartman reported that has not happened and the best thing about the merger was that Kortenhof took over the 911 center. There was discussion regarding efficiencies, savings, quality control. Hartman stated he would suggest to continue this merger as is until it is not working or until a new sheriff or EM director were to bring it forward for review.

No motion needed, information only.

Dispatch Sergeant Vacancy Review

Sheriff Hartman reported a sergeant in the dispatch center left to take a job at Kwik Trip. Hartman stated this was the 4th person in recent months to leave and take positions in the public sector (Wal-Mart, Kwik Trip). In addition, he stated he has offered positions in either dispatch or corrections to four potential employees, who turned down the position because the wage/benefit package was too low for them to accept. Hartman stated this was something to think about and kick around. Timmons suggested that information go to LRES. Metropulos asked if people were really leaving these positions to go to Wal-Mart and Kwik Trip. Hartman stated yes and explained that we used to have lower wages, but a better benefit package, and that Act 10, right or wrong, has brought that package down to being competitive with the public sector.

Fried asked if the Sheriff had the tools to keep an employee, the ability to talk to LRES to try and meet or exceed what the person was going to get outside the county. Hartman stated he could try that, but he needed to be careful because it could cause internal chaos. There was discussion on how tools were needed to keep good employees, the need to know what we were competing against, and that it was vital we keep benefit packages growing in a positive manner.

There was discussion about dispatch and corrections, how those positions are very difficult (working nights, holidays, etc., not being able to leave for 12 hours), possible different scheduling for those positions, the stress related to the jobs, and how only a very low percentage of people can perform these jobs that require multi-tasking. Hartman reported that through Rotary, he has learned there are other agencies in the area who are also having recruiting issues. Timmons stated this was something to look at through their eyes and through LRES regarding long-range turnover effect. Hartman stated there were eight other jobs that fall into the classification with dispatch/corrections.

MOTION: To approve the filling of the vacant Dispatch Sergeant position at the Oneida County Sheriff's Office, forwarding to LRES Committee for review (Fried/Metropulos, PASSED).

2016 Ambulance Summary

Kortenhof reported that every year he gives the committee a summary about the ambulance service. There was discussion on the handout (Exhibit 2), placement of ambulances, staffing of ambulances, run history, financial history, and budget history.

Handout showed a downward trend for the run history for the last four years. Cushing asked if that meant a downward trend in the budget as well. Korten Hof commented that less runs means less revenue. Cushing asked if there were added services. Korten Hof reported no, that was coming up in 2017. He reported that they tried, but could not hire and are having the same type of recruiting issues as the Sheriff's Office.

Korten Hof reported the Three Lakes/Sugar Camp project has only come halfway and is staffed from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Arbor Vitae is looking to start their own service in 2017. This would be a huge change in the budget and staffing. Korten Hof offered to come back to the committee through the year with updates.

Metropulos asked if Nicolet College has a paramedic program. Korten Hof reported they do not, they have EMT and Advanced EMT. Korten Hof stated paramedics have to do internships at a hospital, so that is where they have interactions and try to recruit.

Fried stated runs were down and expenses were flat during the time period of consolidation of town departments, so shouldn't there be a reduction of costs? Korten Hof stated ambulances still needed to be manned. There was discussion regarding ambulances, staffing of ambulances, paramedic program, continuing education, competition for recruits, cost of ambulance rides.

MOTION: To receive the 2016 Ambulance Summary Report as presented (Cushing/Ives, PASSED).

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Medical Examiner Vehicle Update

Timmons reported that Medical Examiner Larry Mathein contacted him prior to the meeting and was out on a call. Mathein explained to Timmons that his new vehicle was delivered earlier this week and he is performing installations on his off time. Mathein stated the vehicle will be up and running by the next time the committee meets. Discussion on where the old vehicle will go.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA(S)

Timmons reported the "Out of Town Travel" agenda item was scratched for this meeting and once proper verbiage is obtained, it will be put back on.

ADJOURN

10:23 a.m. MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Cushing/Metropulos, PASSED).

Mike Timmons, Chairman

Andi Seidel, Committee Secretary

Bob Metropulos, Vice-Chairman