

Minutes

Public Safety Committee

August 15, 2018, 4:15 pm, Room 331

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Niebel, Bankoski, Whitford, Pavlock, Vanstrom

Others: Tampio, Ames, Kneer, Swanson, Cresanti, Gerace, Dennison, Gustafson, O'Connell

Chairman Niebel called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (7/18/18)

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Whitford

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

No one chose to speak at this time.

Proposed Resolution- Authorize Acceptance of Aid to Prosecution Funds 2018-2019

District Attorney Swanson: Aid to Prosecution is a grant that we have- it's our most long standing grant. It's a formula that the State kicks out. There is no local match to this; we are just asking that the monies be accepted.

Chairman Niebel: Patrick, you already accounted for this in your 2018 budget?

District Attorney Swanson: Yes.

Ms. Kneer: We did.

Chairman Niebel: Simple enough. Any questions for the District Attorney's Office?
Those in favor? Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution- Amend 2018 Budget for Office of the Sheriff Accounts

Sheriff Gerace: Good afternoon.

Ms. Cresanti: This is a wash on both accounts. The one is for the Medi-Vac which is minimal. It is for helicopter fuel. The Medi-Vac is a fully reimbursed account. The federal aid is grant funding. It will be the full amount of the grant for equipment that we are going to be needing between radios and then other equipment for our backup 911 center.

Chairman Niebel: They offset? The revenues versus the appropriations?

Ms. Cresanti: Yes, correct.

Chairman Niebel: Any questions to the Sheriff's Department? Those in favor? Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution- Authorize Lease of Cage and Office Space at 201-209 East Fourth Street, Jamestown for the Chautauqua County Sheriff

Sheriff Gerace: Mr. Chair, we have been actually occupying this space for quite some time. At the Windstream building we have a cage area that the 911 core is located for the 911 system. We have been working with Windstream for over a year, I believe-

Ms. Cresanti: Actually, it's been over two.

Sheriff Gerace: We have been trying to come to some terms of a lease agreement, which we have finally done. Well, I shouldn't say that. We are very close to being complete with that. This will authorize us to execute that agreement once we (*inaudible*) terms with them.

Chairman Niebel: What I did- I just did some quick calculations here. For the first two years it looks like \$3.62/square foot. Years three and four- do you have the square footage? Did you figure that out?

Ms. Cresanti: It's listed-

Legislator Vanstrom: It says here, 1,620 square feet.

Ms. Cresanti: It's listed under number one "Premises." 1,620 square feet of office space and 36 square feet of cage space.

Chairman Niebel: But when you figure these out it looks like its \$3.62 for the first two years and \$4.34 for years three and four and then it goes to \$4.71. I think if we compare this to some of the other square footage rentals in the City of Jamestown these are about on par with that. I think these are right in the neighborhood.

Ms. Cresanti: Actually, these costs also include an estimate for electricity usage. They agreed to roll that into the rent price to even things out and I believe the heating is electric.

Chairman Niebel: OK, very good. Any further questions? Those in favor? Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution- Authorize Agreement with Bemus Point Central School District
For School Resource Officer

Sheriff Gerace: The Bemus Point School District is interested in a school resource officer at the Maple Grove High School for this- actually, it's for this school calendar year and then we will continue into next year as well. I'm assuming they will renew- it's a little different because we are starting just before the school- we usually run these contracts a calendar year so we will prorate it for the rest of the year and take it into next year.

Chairman Niebel: Joe, this goes through August 31st of 2019-

Sheriff Gerace: Correct.

Chairman Niebel: And it is for \$75,807?

Sheriff Gerace: Correct.

Chairman Niebel: No cost to the County?

Sheriff Gerace: That's something that we have talked about repeatedly is that we are using a medium price range because depending on who is assigned there, it might be a higher step deputy for one school and a lower step for another one. So, we try to hit the middle mark.

Chairman Niebel: But it's close to no cost. We have had these with a number of schools-

Sheriff Gerace: Correct. We have Silver Creek, Forestville, we have the two BOCES centers and then the Alt. Ed. Facility in Cassadaga.

Chairman Niebel: Alright, any further questions?

Legislator Bankoski: I've been reading in the newspaper that Fredonia has been bumbling through this. Have they reached out to us at all?

Sheriff Gerace: I met with the Superintendent and gave him our contract. He is very aware of it, as far as what they are looking for. I told him what it costs and what we are charging the other schools-

Chairman Niebel: Now it's up to Fredonia School District to decide if they want to take us up on that.

Sheriff Gerace: They do have their own law enforcement agency, so it is preferable that they negotiate with them first.

Legislator Bankoski: Would we be stepping on their toes?

Sheriff Gerace: I don't think so. I have talked to Chief Meyers. They are looking for something for less than what we are charging. I was hoping the federal government would step up and make this available to every school district in the nation through grant funding.

Chairman Niebel: It could still happen.

Legislator Pavlock: In school budgets- say they have a \$15 million or a \$30 million budget, an extra \$75,000 is not a huge item in that budget. Most of the schools run a tight budget. Public safety in the schools is a tough decision. Do you add another teacher or do you add a resource officer.

Sheriff Gerace: It is tough. Back when the federal government funded these, they actually wrote out a four year grant program and the first three years were paid by the grant and then the fourth year was paid by the partnership. We had a different mentality then in the Legislature. They wanted absolutely no partnership from the County's perspective- no cost. So that fourth year had to be paid by the district and after the fourth year was done many of them dropped- they had to make a decision whether to focus on education, lay off a teacher- it's really hard for them. I understand that. We offer the program for the cost that we believe will cover our expense and they have to decide whether they can find funding for it.

Legislator Bankoski: When you look at the schools like that school in Florida- the high school where all those kids got shot last year and you realize that \$75,000 wasn't really that much money considering all the lives that were taken.

Chairman Niebel: Yes. Anybody else? Those in favor of this resolution? Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

Discussion- District Attorney Swanson- 2019 Budget

MOVED by Legislator Bankoski, SECONDED by Legislator Pavlock to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (4:36 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Olivia L. Ames, Committee Secretary