

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Criminal Justice/Public Safety Committee
DATE: September 18, 2000
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Library Conference Room, 6th Floor
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Naccarato and Legislators Klein, Meyer,
Wadnola, Wilkins, Dart and Magarelli
LEGISLATORS ABSENT: None
LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: None
OTHERS ATTENDING: Sheriff Richard Bockelmann, Captain Harry VanVliet,
Robert Sudlow, Probation Director and Support Staff
Member Mark Pisano

Chairman Naccarato called the meeting to order at 6 PM. The following items were discussed and acted upon:

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT: Sheriff Bockelmann presented a resolution for continuation of County and Family Court security services. The resolution authorizes the Chairman of the Legislature to sign an agreement with the New York State Office of Court Administration effective April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001. The five-year contract which covers the period from April 1, 1999 through March 31, 2004 was approved previously to reimburse the salaries of the Deputies assigned to Court Security. Motion moved by Leg. Klein, seconded by Leg. Wadnola. All voting in favor.

A second resolution was presented to transfer \$46,000 into the Jail Part-Time line item (A4-1855-1807) and \$46,000 into Jail Over-Time line item (A4-1855-1901) to cover the increase in the amount of overtime pay due to unanticipated vacancies and overcrowding at the County Jail. The entire amount of \$91,000 will be transferred from the Regular Pay line (A4-1855-1005). Motion by Leg. Dart, seconded by Leg. Meyer. The measure was unanimously approved.

A third resolution was presented to extend the current agreement with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. The original grant was previously awarded from DCJS in the amount of \$8,550 to purchase equipment to upgrade jail records. This grant is being changed to purchase a video imaging ID system to guarantee the integrity of the pistol license process as reviewed and approved by the Superintendent of the New York State Police. The grant period needs to be extended to allow time to make this purchase. The grant period will be modified to read March 1, 1999 to September 30, 2001 and the Grant No. NC98798330 will be changed to purchase a Video Imaging ID System. Moved by Leg. Magarelli, seconded by Leg. Dart. All voting in favor.

The final resolution was presented to authorize the Chairman of the Legislature to renew an agreement with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice from April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001 allowing reimbursement and sharing proceeds forfeited as a result of the Mid-Hudson Drug Enforcement Task Force. The Task Force continues to be successful in combating high level of drug traffickers with one officer assigned from the Ulster County Sheriff's Office. The officer's overtime continues to be reimbursed by DCJS along with overtime for any additional officers assigned to a specific case, as well as sharing of forfeiture proceeds by participating agencies. Motion moved by Leg. Wilkins, seconded by Leg. Klein. All voting in favor.

Sheriff Bockelmann addressed the committee about the cost to the County for search efforts when a person jumped off the Rhinecliff Bridge recently. The rescue team searched two days (with boats, skin divers) looking for a body when in fact, this person had parachuted off the bridge. As of this date, the person has not been located. The cost for the rescue efforts cost the County \$8,000.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT: Mark Pisano made a second presentation to the committee regarding the scope of Probation Officer duties and the desire to change the grade levels in the Department. The probation officers feel the salaries are much lower than what other nearby counties are paying. The committee felt this matter should go before the Personnel Committee and have Personnel Director Tom Costello look into it. The committee wanted to wait until the Salary Study was completed..

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Naccarato, Chairman
Criminal Justice/Public Safety Committee