

**Herkimer County Legislature  
Public Safety/Emergency Management and Ways & Means  
Committee Meeting  
Friday, May 29, 2020  
Via Teleconference  
Follows Human Resources and Ways & Means**

**Persons Attending:**

John P. Stephens (Chairman, Public Safety/W&M committee member)  
Gregory Malta, Sr. (Public Safety committee member)  
Raymond Johnson (committee member, both)  
Kurt J. Ackerman (committee member, both)  
Peter Campione (Public Safety committee member)  
Patrick E. Russell (Ways & Means Committee Chairman)  
Raymond Smith (Ways & Means committee member)  
Frederick J. Shaw, Jr. (committee member, both)  
Vincent J. Bono, Chairman of the Legislature  
James W. Wallace, Jr., County Administrator  
Brandy Serow, Sec. to County Administrator  
Lorraine Lewandrowski, County Attorney  
Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer  
Steve Billings, Personnel Officer  
Michael Edwards, STOP-DWI Coordinator  
Scott Scherer, Sheriff  
John Raymond, Director of Emergency Management

**(Non Committee Members Signed In)**

Legislator Mark Gaworecki  
Legislator Robert J. Schrader  
Legislator Bob D. Hollum  
Legislator William E. Keeler, Sr.  
Legislator John L. Brezinski  
Legislator Peter F. Manno  
Legislator Ray Donley

**Absent:**

William Weakley (Public safety committee member)

Mr. Stephens called the meeting to order at 10:54 a.m.

**Items Discussed:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

1. Approve STOP-DWI Advisory Board Reappointments
2. Approve monthly reports of the Sheriff – March & April
3. Other

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND WAYS & MEANS:**

4. Amend Collective Bargaining Agreement with United Public Service Employees Union in Sheriff's Department
5. Approve renewal of contract with Rivett's Marine Recreation and Service Inc. in Sheriff's Department
6. Approve bid to expand driveway at Dairy Hill Communications Facility using 2018 State Interoperable Communications Target Grant in Emergency Services

7. Other

**Committee Vote Record:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

Mr. Stephens stated “Number one approve STOP-DWI Advisory Board Appointments. Mike Edwards are you on or would you like me to go with what you gave us?”

Mike Edwards stated “I’m here if you need anything.”

Mr. Stephens stated “We have 3 appointments, the Sheriff, Reverend McKusick, and Pete Caiola.”

Item #1 – On motion of Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Campione for Public Safety, Item #1 was voted on, approved and moved for Resolution. Unanimous.

Mr. Stephens stated “Number two approve the Sheriff’s reports for March and April.”

Item #2 – On motion of Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Johnson for Public Safety, Item #2 was voted on and approved. Unanimous.

Item #3 -NA

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND WAYS & MEANS:**

Mr. Stephens stated “Number four amend the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the United Public Service Employees Union in the Sheriff’s Department. Sheriff, are you on? Can you give us a little background on this please?”

Sheriff Scherer stated “I am on. So what we are doing here is we are bringing Trinity in for food services in the Jail that was approved last month. The cook’s position, one of them retired, one of them is no longer with us so we needed to get those two positions out of the union. I spoke with the union head in Albany plus our union President and they agreed to take those two positions out of our contract with the union and in return our employees at the jail, whatever the cost is for the meal, they would pay for the cost if they wanted a meal. So that’s what we are looking at.”

Mr. Stephens asked for a motion.

Item #4 – On motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bono for Public Safety, and on motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bono for Ways & Means, Item #4 was voted on, approved and moved for Resolution. Unanimous.

Mr. Malta asked “Sheriff, is there one employee, I thought was going to be asked to stay on with that new company?”

Sheriff Scherer responded “We would have to go to executive for that because it’s Personnel.”

Mr. Malta said ok.

Mr. Stephens asked if there was any more discussion. With no response the committee moved on.

Mr. Stephens stated “Number five approve renewal of contract with Rivett’s Marine for the Sheriff’s Department. Go ahead Sheriff.”

Sheriff Scherer stated “This is our contract to park our boat up to Rivett’s for the summer season. They went up \$100 this year which is over the 3%. From \$2,250 to \$2,350. So we are looking for a Resolution to pay that \$2,350 for our boat to be up there for the season.”

Mr. Stephens asked for a motion.

Item #5 – On motion of Mr. Campione, seconded by Mr. Bono for Public Safety, and on motion of Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Bono for Ways & Means, Item #5 was voted on, approved and moved for Resolution. Unanimous.

Mr. Stephens stated “Number six approve bid to expand the driveway at Dairy Hill Communications Facility using the 2018 State Interoperable Communication Grant in Emergency Services. Mr. Raymond, give us a little background on this would you please.”

John Raymond stated “I am here. This is part of a project to expand Dairy Hill Communications Facility in the Town of Norway on Dairy Hill Road. It is County owned land. What we are looking to do is, the tower that is there now, we are about to go live with the new radio system in the next couple months. The tower that is there now will support it, however we had an engineering study done on it and it is loaded to capacity. So in the future we would like to add another tower to the other side of the facility similar to the tower we have on Aney Hill down in the Town of Stark. This would get the microwave dishes up higher. This is a primary site. This site not only serves the central portion of the County, it covers a good portion of the County. It also is a link for the microwave system up to McCauley Mountain in the Town of Webb and that would be the primary link to that facility. So in order to do that, I sent out an email, actually it became a part of the minutes I believe or the packet you have. If anybody wants an extra copy or a colored copy of it I can email it to them. This is going to be done in several phases. The first phase is upgrading the driveway. We need to do that because it’s wet land. Truck would easily sink in to this area so we need to have a decent driveway in order to do some work in there and to keep it plowed out and open year round. So this is just phase one of multiple phase projects that will be coming either out of Target 18 grant or SICG 19 grant.”

Mr. Stephens asked for a motion.

Item #6 – On motion of Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Johnson for Public Safety, and on motion of Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Johnson for Ways & Means, Item #6 was voted on, approved and moved for Resolution. Unanimous.

Mr. Stephens asked if there was anything under other for Public Safety. With no response he requested a motion to adjourn

At 11:02 a.m., on motion of Mr. Campione, seconded by Mr. Bono, the Public Safety/Emergency Management Committee adjourned.

The Ways & Means Committee continued.