

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
May 20, 2021**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Mike Timmons, Billy Fried, Mitch Ives (via Zoom), Russ Fisher and Tom Kelly.

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 AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the Agenda (Kelly/Fried, PASSED).

APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the April 15, 2021 Committee Meeting Minutes (Fried/Fisher, PASSED).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

SCHEDULE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE(S)

The next meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

BILLS, VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

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

District Attorney

2021 Staffing Requests

The District Attorney (DA) and the Human Resource (HR) Director are present and provided Exhibit #1 Staffing Request and Fiscal Impact.

The Human Resource Director explained the District Attorney originally requested the Victim Witness Position as a fulltime position. The LRES/Administration Committee created the position at 60% and advertised the position with a full benefit package. It has been determined the position is short thirty-hours required to receive the retirement benefit package.

The DA is requesting the position be increased to 65% and mentioned costs are covered in the budget. The DA discussed the issue and possible options with person in the Victim Witness position and shared information.

There were discussions regarding increasing the position an additional 5% (approximately ninety extra hours), wages/benefits, fiscal impact, budget, options, workload, etc.

Supervisor Fried expressed concern with an increase of additional hours. The Chairman stated the person was hired with the expectation of benefits.

There was brief discussion regarding retro-active. The HR Director indicated action would not be retro-active. The DA reiterated he is requesting the adjustment to start allowing the person to accrue benefits.

MOTION: To approve the District Attorney Staffing Request with the additional 98-hours as presented and forward the request to LRES for final approval (Timmons/Kelly, four aye votes and one nay vote: Fried, PASSED).

The Chairman requested a copy for the record.

Clerk of Circuit Courts
2022 Bailiff Staffing Requests
Annual request for Bailiff's.

MOTION: To accept the Bailiff Staffing Requests for 2022 (Fisher/Kelly, PASSED).

Circuit Court Branch I and Circuit Court Branch II
2022 Law Clerk Staffing Request
Annual request for the Law Clerk.

MOTION: To approve the Law Clerk Staffing Request as presented for Branch I and Branch II and forward onto LRES (Fried/Timmons, PASSED).

Sheriff's Office
2022 Staffing Requests
The Sheriff and the Chief Deputy are present.

Annual staffing requests for the HazMat Team, School Liaisons, Dive Team, Dispatch LTE's, Corrections LTE's, HazMat Chief and Deputy Emergency Management Directors. Fried inquired about wage increases,

Supervisor Fried asked if the HazMat Chief role could be incorporated into the Emergency Management job description. The Sheriff did not recommend it. The Sheriff explained the Emergency Management Director oversees operations and the HazMat Chief specifically works with the incident.

MOTION: To approve the Sheriff's Staffing Requests (Fisher/Kelly, PASSED).

Harrison Ambulance Contract

The Sheriff explained the history of using equalized values to calculate expenses, informed the Committee there was a meeting with the Town of Harrison and a cost was negotiated based off of 2020 valuations with, a 1% increase each year, creating a new contract.

There were discussions regarding Towns being responsible, statutorily, for providing ambulance service, Town's cannot use ambulance expenses to go above and beyond budget and how the 1% increase was determined. The Sheriff stated the 1% increase is based on equalized values and can be renegotiated. Because it is a countywide ambulance program, the county can go above and beyond levy limits. The Chief Deputy informed the Committee the contract was reviewed by Corporation Counsel.

MOTION: to approve the Harrison Ambulance Contract as presented (Fried/Fisher, PASSED).

Medical Examiner

2022 Staffing Request

The Medical Examiner (ME) and the Deputy Medical Examiner are present.

The ME is requesting the Deputy Medical Examiner to be fulltime. The ME Office will have a staff member leaving in January, the transport officer could retire at any time, has three Limited Term Employees (LTE) one only works four-shifts a month and could also leave at any time, the office is very busy and, discussed the staffing request with the Human Resource Director. The ME provided support information for the request.

Supervisor Fried inquired if there is a rise in cases. The ME stated there are more this year, ahead of last year numbers for Oneida County.

There were discussions re: revenue, costs, information and data, contracted counties and service areas, growth of population with a higher number of retirees, workload within the County and with contracted counties and, working every weekend, etc.

Supervisor Fried asked if the staffing request is asking for money from the tax levy. The ME stated no and explained/provided revenue information. The ME mentioned there are other opportunities to bring in additional revenue by conducting classes, etc. and shared ideas. The ME is the only fulltime employee and needs assistance.

There was discussion regarding the reduced number of donors and COVID restrictions.

The ME shared an idea of efficiency in splitting the coverage areas by locating herself at the Arbor Vitae Office and have the Deputy ME in the Rhinelander Area, this will help with response and distance of travel.

The ME mentioned staffing request costs is not in the budget but there are monies in revenue and referred to ways to shift monies and make some cuts.

The Chairman mentioned the Sheriff's Office has space at the Woodruff Town Hall as well.

Supervisor Fried applauded the ME for what she is doing.

MOTION: To move forward to LRES and bring back more information as needed (Timmons/Kelly, PASSED).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was given.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Update from EMS and Next Gen 911.

ADJOURN 10:27 a.m.

Mike Timmons, Chairman

Dawn Robinson, Committee Secretary

Russ Fisher, Vice-Chairman