

PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 2010

The Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee of the Broome County Legislature met on Monday, June 7, 2010 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building, Binghamton, New York.

Members Present: R. Materese (Chair), M. Diffendorf, J. Marinich, S. Messina, M. Whalen

Members Absent: None

Others Present: M. Kalka, M. Gerchman (Budget Office); B. Fiala, D. Fauci (County Exec's Office); P. Brennan (Public Works/County Exec's Office); D. Harder (Sheriff); W. Howard, S. Buchta, D. Moran, G. LaBare, C. Marion, E. Denk, J. Royer (Legislature)

The Committee meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 5:04 P.M. A motion was made to move the agenda by Mr. Marinich, seconded by Ms. Messina.

The Committee took the following action with regard to the matters before it:

#1 RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW INTRODUCTORY NO. 6 OF 2010, ENTITLED: "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE BROOME COUNTY CHARTER AND ADMINISTRATIVE CODE IN RELATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF"

Mr. Denk stated that he was contacted by Sheriff Harder about updating this section and that the Law Department, Office of the Sheriff and he has worked together to update the Office of the Sheriff's section of the Charter and Administrative Code. Sheriff Harder stated that these updates bring the charter and code into agreement with the current laws and practices governing the Office of the Sheriff. Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#44 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF TO DONATE OLD HOLSTERS TO THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON POLICE DEPARTMENT OR ANY OTHER POLICE AGENCY

Sheriff Harder stated that the Office of the Sheriff has upgraded holsters for safety reasons and that the City of Binghamton and other municipal departments currently use the same type of holster that the Sheriff's Department previously used. Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

Mr. Materese stated that the Commission of Correction has been in contact with the Jail regarding their belief that a new medical facility must be built in order to prevent co-mingling of male and female patients in the medical facility as well as to prevent co-mingling of adults and juveniles in the medical facility. When the jail was built, the medical facility was approved by the Commission of Correction and the rules have since changed. Each room in the medical ward is considered a separate cell and there is no contact. Suggestions have been made with varying costs. The most economical solution would be to place a wall or folding doors to separate the floor in half. It is estimated that building a new medical facility would cost about two million dollars and the other option of building J-Pod would cost

seven to nine million dollars or more. Mr. Marcus from the Law Department, Major Smolinsky and Captain Moore have worked on a plan with cost cutting measures and presented it to the Commission. The Commission has also stated that Broome County must hire more corrections staff. Mr. Materese has gone to Albany with the Sheriff to discuss the staffing issue with the Commission.

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, a motion was made by Ms. Messina, seconded by Mr. Diffendorf, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:24 P.M.