



# Onondaga County Legislature

**JAMIE McNAMARA**  
Clerk

**JAMES J. ROWLEY**  
Chairman

**TAMMY BARBER**  
Deputy Clerk

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## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES – NOVEMBER 14, 2023** **MARK A. OLSON, CHAIR**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. McCarron, Mr. Ryan, \*Mr. Bush, Mr. Kinne**

**ALSO ATTENDING:** See attached list

Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and approved the minutes with no corrections.

**1. FIRE ADVISORY BOARD:** Dan Wears, Commissioner

**a. Confirming an Appointment to the Onondaga County Fire Advisory Board (Jason C. Green)**

*A motion was made by Mr. McCarron, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve this item.*

### **Comments from the Committee:**

- Mr. Green has great history with the fire service; brings a good perspective to the Board
- Great choice for this appointment

*Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

**2. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** Dan Wears, Commissioner

**a. Adopting the Updated Onondaga County and City of Syracuse Arson Control Plan**

- Required by NYS to have an Arson Control Plan
- Primary changes are formatting, updating terminology, and certification titles as required NYS guidelines
- No substantive changes to what or how things are done
- Outlines overall responsibilities of the following departments:
  - City fire investigation unit
  - County fire investigation unit
  - Law enforcement agencies
  - District Attorney's office
- Identifies arson task force if there is a potential serial arsonist

\* Mr. Bush arrived

- Plan has been approved by the city and Office of Fire Prevention Control (OFPC)

### **Questions/Comments from the Committee:**

- Was there something that sparked the update?
  - Has not been updated in long time
  - There were a lot of changes to fire investigation training classes and titles
  - Updated to current NYS requirements
- Does this Plan meet all of the state guidelines?
  - Yes; received approval letter from the state OFPC

- NYS mandates this update?
  - Yes

***A motion was made by Mr. McCarron, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**b. Amending the 2023 County Budget to Accept Grant Funds from the Federal Department of Transportation for the County Department of Emergency Management to Develop and Implement Plans for Improved Preparation and Reports Concerning Hazardous Materials Incidents Involving Pipelines (\$121,000)**

- Working with City of Syracuse, Oswego County, and Madison County on hazardous materials response
- Group put together an application to Federal DOT for a pipeline safety grant
  - Application provides tabletop exercises in each of the 3 counties to look at:
    - Pipeline safety response plans and procedures
    - Preparedness on how to respond with regional hazmat team
  - Goal is to identify gaps or ways to improve
  - If approved, a consultant will be hired to design exercises for each county
- This is the first DOT grant for the Department of Emergency Management (EM)

**Questions/Comments from the Committee:**

- This is grant money through DOT for the purpose of EM identifying gaps or weaknesses in pipelines?
  - Yes
- Who picks the consultant?
  - Will put out RFP if approved
- If approved EM will work with Madison and Oswego counties to identify the need, then hire a consultant to identify gaps and weaknesses, then put together a plan to mitigate potential hazard?
  - Yes, there could be changes to plans or processes
  - Some things could be free
  - May need to increase capabilities
- What type of pipes are considered?
  - Any type of pipeline that carries hazardous material
- Will the grant have anything to do with safety on railroads?
  - This is a pipeline specific grant, however there can be carryover in what can be approved for railways
    - Foam trailer capability was designed for rail cars and can be used for pipelines
- Is Onondaga County the lead?
  - Yes
- Madison and Oswego counties are all in?
  - Yes, they have participated in the application
  - All 3 counties will collectively work together to determine scope of work before putting out a RFP
- Does the county still have foam trailer?
  - Yes
- City of Syracuse is used for hazmat responder
- Is the hazmat station off Geddes St.?
  - Yes, Station 5

***A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



TAMMY BARBER, Deputy Clerk  
Onondaga County Legislature

## ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: **PUBLIC SAFETY**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Dan Wear	EM
Jerry Payne	EM
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Sheriff Shelly	Sheriff
Tom Newton	Sheriff
Jim Beebe	Leg
John DeSantis	Leg
Ben Yaus	Law