Onondaga County Legislature

HASSINA K. ADAMS
Clerk

NICOLE WATTS
Chairwoman

SPENCER BERG
Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2026
CHARLES E. GARLAND, CHAIR

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Garland, Mr. McCarron, Mr. Ryan, Ms. Block, Mr. Knapp
ALSO PRESENT: Leader May, Mr. Brown, Ms. Denton

Chair Garland called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m., and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

1. **PERSONNEL:** Carl Hummel, Commissioner
   a. Accepting and Approving the Contract Between Onondaga County and the Onondaga County Deputy Sheriff's Benevolent Association

   Memorandum of Agreement by and Between the Onondaga County and Deputy Sheriff's Benevolent Association of Onondaga, Inc. on File with the Clerk

- Tentative agreement with the DSBA after a long wait
- Term of the agreement January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2028
- Wages increase 3.5% in 2024 and 2025, 5% in 2026 and 2027, and 3% in 2028
- Modifications to the 207-c language
- New article covering death of a member in the line of duty; consistent with other units at the sheriff's office
- Modifications to the article on work schedules; allowing for a 4344 schedule at the sheriff's discretion
- Modifications to the 207-c appeal procedure; members continue benefits for a period of time pending a determination
- Biggest non-fiscal item, the sunsetting of the work limitation and restriction procedure, the JMEDs
  - Upon adoption, no new members will have access to that procedure; through attrition, the program will go away
  - Members who do not re-certify a restriction within a 90-day window will lose that permanently

Questions/Comments:

- Members ratified this?
  - Voted September 8th; third vote on a tentative agreement
  - Around 70% of the membership voted for it
- Glad to see this get done; appreciate the county's efforts
  - Team did a fantastic job; Donna Briscoe, John Kennedy, and Anne Marie
- Congratulations to President Hagenmeier, his team, and the men and women of the DSBA; glad to see the JMEDs going away; pay finally at a rate where it should be

A motion was made by Mr. McCarron, seconded by Mr. Knapp, to approve this item; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. COUNTY LEGISLATURE:

a. DISCUSSION: Budget Discussion & Follow-Up Items

Chair Garland reviewed follow-up items from the budget review hearings with CFO Smiley.

E-911 Staffing

- 2027 budget reflects the number of employees the department has the capacity to recruit and train
- Lengthy training process; experienced staff on the floor for an extended period; limits the number of new folks in 2027
- Will continue to evaluate staffing needs; future budgets will include any adjustments
- Partnering with SU, OCC, or anybody else to train before they hire?
  - Will follow up with the commissioner
  - Very strict requirements; certified trainers; training of internal staff

Data Sharing Policy

- Data sharing policy requested; will follow up

Vehicle Inventory

- Vehicle inventory for departments outside of the sheriff's office later today
  - Defer to the sheriff's office due to safety concerns of releasing any data

Jamesville Transition Plan

- 2027 CIP includes a feasibility study to determine the costs and requirements to combine to one consolidated public safety campus
- Once complete with a transition plan, staffing needs in next year's budget or an amendment to the budget
- When the transition happens, consolidating any repetitive, redundant services?
  - Correct

Sheriff's Vehicle Fleet

- Sheriff's office needs to sign off on any information provided
- Automobile line, the 225; rationale behind that number?
  - Same amount included in the 2026 executive budget; this legislature increased that
  - Fiscal situation; what this budget could support without increasing the tax levy
- List of vehicles; anything updated since the budget?
  - Sheriff's office sent a list of the entire vehicle fleet; incomplete
  - Mileage; how many vehicles approaching 80,000 miles, to project out
- List break down where each vehicle is assigned, i.e., CID vehicles, transport vehicles?
  - No; worth looking at; may have been omitted for safety reasons
  - VIN, model year, make and model, and mileage
- Okay with a vehicle with 85,000 miles running equipment building to building, but not going on emergency calls
- Reminder; an opportunity to celebrate items supported, suggest amendments, suggested placements in budget lines
- Amendment so they're able to get all the vehicles requested; money available? Lateral transfers?
  - Options; cuts elsewhere in the budget to remain flat, or increase the levy or fund balance
- Sheriff proposed 35 at $1.5 million; City of Syracuse looking at 55 at about $3.2 million through the CIP; energy efficient vehicles
  - Going down from 750 last year to overhauling six not comfortable; work across the aisle to at least last year's number
- In agreement
- Using cash for the cars?
  - Yes; part of the entire budget; sales tax or property tax
- Ever entertained bonding for vehicles?

    - A long time ago, at least one bond issuance; handled through the operating budget
- Don't pay interest on something that depreciates; county in a different fiscal position than the city; both sides of the aisle interested in seeing the cars restored; willing to make the corrections to the budget
- Tried leasing vehicles years ago; didn't work out well
- Replacing them through the CIP? Explored looking at the fleet holistically, or small year by year?
    - Over 10 years ago, a CIP for some vehicles, sheriff's or DOT
    - Historically carried through the operating budget; after the pandemic, a lot of money into vehicles across the county, DOT, sheriff's, parks
    - Year-end process with surplus; transfers for vehicles
- Need back then pegged to the mortgage crisis fallout; bonding for limited shelf life like automobiles doesn't compute; using cash every year the smart fiscal play; not a good look for the county's financial ratings
    - Debt service larger year over year in the beginning; shorter PPU
- First instance within the budget looking to add and not take away; CIP not the smartest way; explore better avenues; a shared priority, want to get it right
- Bonding years ago when interest rates were incredibly low
- Can anticipate an amendment coming up

Chair Garland thanked Commissioner Hummel, Commissioner Corn, and Commissioner Wears for everything they have done.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. McCarron, seconded by Mr. Knapp, to adjourn the meeting; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.



SPENCER BERG, Deputy Clerk
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