

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
FEBRUARY 19, 2008

Committee Members

In Attendance: Vito Pinto, Chair, William Burton, Peter Harckham, John Nonna,
Judy Myers.

Guests in Attendance: CEO: Bill Randolph Corrections: Karl Vollmer Law: Carol Arcuri
BOL: Rick Pezzullo and Melanie Montalto.

Minutes

Chairman Pinto called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

The Committee discussed agenda item #5, an IMA with Peekskill for the transportation of prisoners to the County jail for 2006-2007. Karl Vollmer from the Department of Corrections spoke to the Committee on this item and he stated that Peekskill made more arrests during 2006-2007 than the County projected. Chairman Pinto asked that the Department provide the backup documentation to show the number of arrests and transports to the jail.

Moved by Legislator Burton and seconded by Legislator Harckham, agenda item #5 passed with a vote of 5-0.

Karl Vollmer spoke to the Committee about agenda item #6, an IMA with Peekskill for prisoner transportation from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009.

Moved by Legislator Burton and seconded by Legislator Myers, agenda item #6 passed with a vote of 5-0.

Karl Vollmer spoke to the Committee about agenda item #7, an IMA with Yonkers for prisoner transportation from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009. Chairman Pinto asked that the Committee Coordinator look up the rates for the past two contracts. Chairman Pinto asked Mr. Vollmer on behalf of Legislator Jenkins if Yonkers has been giving the County a hard time with credit card bills. Mr. Vollmer stated that Yonkers has not done any credit card charges because they do not see a benefit to it.

Moved by Legislator Nonna and seconded by Legislator Harckham, agenda item #7 passed with a vote of 5-0.

Carol Arcuri, Associate County Attorney of the Law Department spoke to the Committee with regard to agenda item #8, an authorization for outside counsel for a lawsuit by Kyle Dennis, a former county inmate, against the County Correction Department, 4 Correction Officers, EMSA Correctional Care, and a nurse.

The Committee went into executive session to discuss details of the case.

Moved by Legislator Myers and seconded by Legislator Nonna, agenda item #8 passed with a vote of 5-0.

The Committee discussed the response to the memo that was sent to Commissioner Butler and Belfiore regarding security at the County Courthouse. The response was submitted by Commissioner Butler. A copy of the memo is on file and available for review.

Legislator Harckham stated that this memo does not explain why we are using equipment that other courts are not using which is causing us to have this trouble getting maintenance on the machines. The Committee would like to know why machines that are hard to service were purchased. Chairman Pinto stated that he would like Judge Nicoli to come in and speak to the Committee on this matter, or have a letter sent to the Judge asking these questions.

Chairman Pinto expressed some concern about the closure of the Bronx River Parkway at the Yonkers-Bronxville border due to stones falling off the bridge and the bridge needs to be re-pointed. He stated that the press release and article in the paper do not state how long the BRP will be closed or provide alternate routes. Members of the Committee expressed displeasure with not being notified when things like this and other incidents happen in their district. Chairman Pinto asked that the County Executive's Office provide a brief email stating how long the BRP will be closed and the work that is taking place.

Moved by Legislator Myers and seconded by Legislator Burton the Committee on Public Safety and Security adjourned at 10:24.

A complete audio recording of this meeting is on file.