

Public Safety

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft



Committee Chair: Terry Clements

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

4:15 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

Legislator Colin Smith will be participating remotely from 1132 Main Street, Ste 1, Peekskill, NY 10566

Legislator Jose Alvarado will be participating remotely from 285 Nepperhan Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701

Legislator Symra Brandon will be joining remotely from 28 Wells Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701

With a quorum present, Chair Clements called the meeting to order at 4:26 PM

Present: Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

Remote: Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Pierce and Committee Vice-Chair Smith

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[ACT-2023-200](#) IMA-Prisoner Transportation-Harrison

Guests:**Department of Corrections:**

William Fallon, Director of Administrative Services
Karl Vollmer, Assistant Warden, Jail Division

Warden Vollmer explained that these are contract renewals for prisoner transportation agreements that have been established for many years.

Legislator Clements asked how the figures were calculated for the increases in the contract. Warden Vollmer explained the calculations are based off past contractual amounts as well as accounting for contractual raises.

Legislator Clements also asked whether the Department has additional contracts with some of the larger municipalities. Warden Vollmer said yes but they are on a different funding cycle.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Smith, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

Members of the Public Safety Committee voted to lower the voting quorum from 5 to 4 in order to expeditiously move items through the committee.

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

[ACT-2023-201](#) IMA-Prisoner Transportation-21 Municipalities

Guests:**Department of Corrections:**

William Fallon, Director of Administrative Services
Karl Vollmer, Assistant Warden, Jail Division

See item 2023-384 above.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio and Legislator Brandon

[ACT-2023-205](#) IMA - Village of Port Chester - National Night Out

Legislator Barr described the successful NNO that is held by Portchester each year and emphasized Portchester's appreciation for the \$1,000 to support their efforts including the inflatables they add to the event for their children.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

[ACT-2023-210](#) IMA-Mobile Radios for Police Vehicles-Municipalities

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Guests:**Department of Emergency Services:**

Commissioner, Richard Wishnie

Deputy Commissioner, Susan Spear

Director EMS and Communications Division Director EMS, Chief Michael Volk

Communication and RTC Liaison, Noah Goldberg

Department of Public Safety:

Captain James Greer

Sergeant Joseph Spinelli

Department of Information Technology:

Information Technology - Radio Group, Adam Epstein

IT Consultant, Danish Syed

Captain Greer explained that the radios are being upgraded to correct an issue that has been going on for a few years. Because there are mutual aid events everyday, upgrading the system will help to coordinate safely.

Legislator Barr mentioned that during an earlier meeting it was discussed that these upgrades were done for the fire department 20 years ago, so this legislation is to catch everybody up. She also mentioned a question that was brought up around using cell phones to communicate, but it was determined this is the best way to communicate during emergencies.

Legislator Clements asked how the amount of radios for each police department be decided. Captain Greer responded that although there are many police departments, a lot of the towns and villages only have a small number of cars deployed on a tour. Essentially it'll depend on the amount of radios the Department has taken need and practical deployment into perspective.

Legislator Smith reiterated his support for this project but wanted to ask if the upgrades that are now bringing the Police Department up to speed with the Fire Department, include the local emergency services departments. Chief Volk said that each municipality should have a designated office of emergency services and the county will allow local emergency management groups to be added to support the larger operation.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was

approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 4:53 PM by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Gashi

Absent: Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

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