

TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Office of the County Attorney

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FINANCE, LEGAL AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

July 12, 2022

10:30am

ATTENDANCE:

Legislators: Chair Sauerbrey, Roberts, Ciotoli, Standinger, Mullen, Weston, Hollenbeck, Monell and Brown

Staff: Legislative Clerk Haskell, County Attorney DeWind, Safety Officer Thorpe, Treasurer McFadden, Deputy Treasurer Chandler, Chief Accountant Jerzak, Accountant Schurter, Personnel Officer Parke

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Legislator Monell asked for a motion to approve the June 14, 2022 minutes. Legislator Standinger made the motion, seconded by Legislator Brown and was unanimously carried.

FINANCIAL: Legal and Safety's budgets are tracking well however Legal's "Legal Fees" line has a limited amount of available funds that might not be sufficient to cover pending litigation.

OLD BUSINESS: The 2020 In Rems are moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS: Legal will be asking for the creation of "All Other-On Call" budget line for 2023. This budget line would be used to compensate the adolescent offender's attorney and judge when there is an afterhours Adolescent Offender arraignment. Legal would like to increase the "Office Supply" line and explore the possibility of adding a part time attorney position to handle juvenile delinquent cases and sexual harassment investigations. Department of Social Services attorneys are unable to assist with this work due to a thirty eight percent (38%) increase in caseloads. In the past there was a part time attorney who handled juvenile delinquents. County Attorney DeWind is exploring options, with the County's insurance, to create this position zero based however this does not seem feasible. Legislator Monell asked County Attorney DeWind to reach out to Budget Officer Bailey to discuss the feasibility of a part time attorney position at the August Committee Meeting.

Safety Officer Thorpe briefly discussed the proposed 2023 Safety Budget. Safety Officer Thorpe would like "Contracted Services" and "Nursing Supplies" increased to cover the expense of Audiograms for Department of Public Works employees and the purchase of new defibrillator pads for the County's defibrillator machines. The Legislators had no objection to increasing the budgeted amount to cover these costs.

A conference was recently held, paperwork was refiled and a motion was refiled last week in regards to a County litigation suit. The Opioid lawsuit disbursed the first round of payments last month. Mental Hygiene has received notification of the money along with suggested uses from the State.

ILS Year 5 recently held their first meeting to discuss the year five budget. The budget for year five is set at one hundred twenty four thousand (\$124,000) however going forward ILS will receive a static amount. Tioga County ILS is exploring partnering with Broome County ILS for assigned counsel and research services. ILS is currently looking at municipal spaces that would provide space to meet with clients and will be submitting their budget in October. An intermunicipal agreement would be submitted for the Legislature for approval.

Safety trainings are being completed with departments. Workplace Violence investigations and sexual harassment claims are continuing and are being completed in house. Larger claims are handled by Roemer at an expense to departments ranging from five to twelve thousand dollars (\$5,000 to \$12,000) however departments do not budget for this expense.

The Second Quarter Loss Control meeting was recently held. Claims have decreased for this quarter resulting in fewer losses for the County.

PERSONNEL: None

RESOLUTIONS: AUTHORIZE CONTRACT WITH BURKE GROUP FOR COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION STUDY SERVICES; this resolution was moved into full Legislative session without further questions.

PROCLAMATIONS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Legislature Monell adjourned the Legal and Safety Committee meeting at 10:58am.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Freyvogel

Secretary to the County Attorney