



Onondaga County Legislature

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES – JUNE 11, 2014 **BRIAN MAY, CHAIRMAN**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Ryan, ¹Mr. Jordan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Holmquist

ALSO PRESENT: See attached list

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM. *A motion was made by Mr. Dougherty, seconded by Mr. Ryan to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the previous committee. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

1. **SHERIFF:** John Balloni, Chief
Monthly Update on Status of:

Chairman May noted for a point of order that updates on Correctional Health could be changed to quarterly. Chief Balloni agreed.

a. Special Operations Facility

- VIP Structures location study progressing well; proposal to committee within next several months
- Requested meeting to discuss facility pricing to determine more accurate figure for Legislature

Chairman May asked if the proposal would include location options and recommendations. Chief Balloni responded that it would include the recommendations from the contractor, as well as input from their office.

Chairman May noted that a number of agencies and the City have expressed interest from a shared service point and asked if there were any updates. Chief Balloni responded that final commitment will be made once site selection is completed. The City is concerned about the site location in terms of convenience. The Sheriff's office is also concerned and is looking for certain things within the site location. The contractor is currently looking at county owned or public land sites so that nothing is removed from the tax rolls.

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni confirmed that this will be one large facility for both special enforcement activities and property and evidence.

¹Mr. Jordan arrived at the meeting.

Chief Balloni stated that both facilities are in significant disrepair, which has been reviewed with the legislature for quite a while. Property and evidence has reached critical mass in this regard; basement of Joy Road facility floods regularly resulting in loss of property. Critical evidence could be lost at any time and must be addressed. They hope to have a report for the committee within 2 months, so that a decision can be made to move forward.

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni stated that the City's demands would more than double the size of the evidence portion of space. The volume of crime and need for storage is much greater in the City. Chairman May asked where their storage facility was currently located. Chief Balloni responded that it is divided between several locations. The City does not disclose the primary building because of the location. It is in similar condition; needs major repairs or a new facility.

Mr. Dougherty asked if there was a calendar and how far out they are from deciding on a place and moving in.

Chief Balloni responded that he believes there will be a report within the next several months detailing location options, along with recommendations from the contractor and Sheriff's office. From that point, it will depend on what needs to be done; probably looking at a completion date of 2016. They have been working on the Capital Plan, which list 2016 as the completion date.

b. Pistol Permits

- Under 3 month waiting period
- Working to continue software implementation – have transference of data issues; weekly meeting scheduled with vendor to ensure progress
- Hope to go live by fall

Mr. Dougherty stated it was impressive to drop from 18 to 3 months relatively quickly and asked if they hoped to decrease this even further. Chief Balloni responded that they anticipate reducing the process to less than 1 month, with the full use of the software. People think of this a permit issue but it is a service issue for the Sheriff's department. They are inconveniencing the public they serve and want to fix this. This is not a bright spot for the Sheriff's office, they need to right it and make it whole. They have made vast improvements and are hoping to continue to do so with the software. They are leaning heavily on the vendor to move this forward.

Mr. Jordan questioned if this would be a reoccurring problem when a flood of renewals comes up. Chief Balloni responded that renewals will largely be a state run procedure; 5 year renewal will impact them as the records must be updated and they must notify the state of the need for a renewal. Every aspect of the Safe Act has impacted that particular operation. They are already impacted in terms of getting information back and forth to the state. It would be nice if the state advanced their computerization so that communications could be handled by computer.

Mr. Dougherty asked if they knew much about the state's renewal process. Chief Balloni responded, "No". In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni stated that the County would not run background checks for the renewals. He suspects that the procedure will be the state running an updated background check. With the number of checks needed to buy ammunition, it is overkill at this point. Chairman May stated that he believes the procedure is largely undefined, there is a requirement called recertification but how they do it and what is required may not be defined. Chief Balloni added that the state is working on it and has put out some information; doesn't know if the process has been completed.

Chairman May congratulated them on the Sheriff's office on the progress. In the past month or two he has heard from many applicants who are very happy with the accelerated turnaround. This is not just for people that want to own guns, but people who need to carry for their employment. This accommodation is huge for their ability to work. Chief Balloni responded that they always moved people with employment needs to the front of the line, since their livelihood depended on it. However, at their worst of times, they were waiting a long time also. It is a much better process today.

c. Correctional Health

- Infirmary opened by Correct Care Solutions (CCS)
- Number of people have already been serviced in-house; translates into less overtime and less transport, will have significant impact on Custody overtime
- Prisoner health not endangered by infirmary, sometimes better to treat in-house – like getting treatment at home, hospital isn't always the wisest choice; prisoner care is primary purpose but has added benefits

Chairman May stated that it was a very formal process to define the contract. Having these capabilities inside insures defined processes are followed and has financial upsides. Chief Balloni added that Ms. Buck is the Contract Administrator; an RN employed by Onondaga County to insure the contractor is consistently meeting their obligations.

d. Amending the 2014 County Budget to Accept State Homeland Security Funds for the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office and Authorizing the County Executive to Enter into Contracts to Implement this Resolution (\$72,500)

- County administers grant; federal funds going to law agencies countywide

BUDGET:

Agency	Project	Funds
Baldwinsville Police	Simunition training equipment to be used to conduct active shooter training.	\$2,048.00
Camillus Police	Breaching tools and Ballistic shields to be used during training and responding to acts of terrorism.	\$9,850.00
Cicero Police	This will fund a refresher course to the Active shooter courses attended in 2010.	\$11,019.00
DeWitt Police	Physical Access control system for the Dewitt Police Department.	\$9,500.00
Geddes Police	Replace out dated and no longer serviceable Mobile Computer Terminals in the patrol cars.	\$8,815.00
Manlius Police	Night Vision goggles and Ballistic helmets to be used in responding to and training for act of terrorism.	\$8,250.00
North Syracuse Police	Portable radios, ballistic helmets, and Physical access control system.	\$10,085.00
Onondaga County Sheriff's Office	This will cover overtime/backfill cost for a SWAT school to train new members needed to keep up our certification.	\$10,000.00
Solvay Police	Simunition training equipment to be used to conduct active shooter training.	\$2,933.00
	<u>Total</u>	<u>\$72,500.00</u>

- Grant covers required SWAT training costs; County provides SWAT for other agencies

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni stated that certain certification trainings are mandated, particularly when adding new members to the team. People come and go from a SWAT team; physically and emotionally challenging, resulting in turnover.

In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni stated the disbursement and use of funds was determined by a committee of all involved agencies; use must fall within grant guidelines. Sometimes it benefits the entire community, e.g. active shooter in Cicero - likely that their people would be assisting, therefore training benefits all. The grant application was submitted as a group effort, with projects listed. Everything must be preapproved; can't use the funds for anything you choose and there is never enough money for all the wants. This is a good program that has been going on for a number of years, though the numbers have decreased. It has always been a good program for funding items that are very difficult to fund.

In answer to Mr. Ryan, Chief Balloni stated that training is necessary for accreditation. Policies and training levels for accreditation may be different from state certification and there are training requirements for every aspect of accreditation.

Mr. Ryan stated it was good to use these funds for training verses other items. Going forward, he would like to continue this practice – wants the best skilled agencies to respond in a crisis and training is imperative. Chief Balloni added that in difficult budget times training is often the first area cut.

A motion was made by Mr. Dougherty, seconded by Mr. Jordan to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

e. Amending the 2014 County Budget to Accept Funds from the New York State Canal Corporation for Patrol of the Waterways by the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office and Authorizing the County Executive to Enter into Contracts to Implement this Resolution (\$40,000)

- Reimbursement of personnel and fuel costs used to patrol waters on or contiguous to NYS Canal System
- New program - covers \$34,500 personnel & \$5,500 fuel costs
- Continue to receive 50% NYS reimbursement for marine patrols; new program funds taken of the top, e.g. \$100k total, \$40k deducted, 50% reimbursement for remaining \$60k
- Navigation personnel cut from 4 to 2 due to overtime and personnel shortages; personnel necessary to respond to calls and provide some level of patrol; state police no longer patrol, may be the reason for new funds
- Decreases cost to local taxpayers – areas patrolled either way

Chairman May stated the grant makes since from a budget standpoint. It will cover and reduce some of the costs.

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni stated that last year's costs were between \$100,000 and \$120,000 and estimates this year's cost will be \$80,000 with the reduction of personnel. Chairman May noted that this would bring the local cost down to \$20,000. Chief Balloni responded that it would be very minimal.

In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni stated that no equipment was being purchased via the grant; only fuel and personnel costs are allowed. Mr. Dougherty asked if they were expecting to buy equipment with the 50% match from the state. Chief Balloni responded that he believes there is some equipment, noting that virtually all of their boats have been given to them; no money but substantial assets. Certain equipment is needed each year. Mr. Dougherty stated that he is less concerned with the small items or maintenance of the current items; concerned about major items or overhauls. Chief Balloni responded that they aren't talking about much money beyond those issues; there are no major items that he is aware of.

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

f. Amending the 2014 County Budget to Accept Drug Enforcement Administration Funds for Cannabis Eradication Work Done by the Air One Program of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office and Authorizing the County Executive to Enter into Contracts to Implement this Resolution (\$30,000)

- 4th year of funding, up \$2k from last year; helps fund Air 1 flights
- Cannabis often grown in middle of large corn fields, need air resources to be seen; shows up on infrared - gives off different heat sensor than other plants at certain times of the year
- Cannabis found each year, harvested and placed in property and evidence facility; must be dried to save, have cannabis drying operation

Mr. Ryan asked if this was specific to Onondaga County. Chief Balloni responded that this was a good question. Since this is federal money, he does not believe that they would care if the cannabis was found in another county while Air 1 was on a mission. From what he is aware of, most of the cannabis found has been in Onondaga County. In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni confirmed that these are not special flights - they are looking for cannabis while doing their regular mission.

Mr. Dougherty stated it was a good program. Chairman May added it was also successful.

A motion was made by Mr. Dougherty, seconded by Mr. Jordan to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

g. Transfer of funds from Contingency Account, Sheriff Custody, 666500 (\$106,424) to Automotive Equipment Account 671500 (\$106,424)

h. Transfer of funds from Contingency Account, Sheriff Police/Civil, 666500 (\$488,474) to Automotive Equipment Account 671500 (\$488,474)

- Items g & h will be discussed together- both are requesting release of funds for vehicle purchases
- Vehicles shown are on the road; also have list of vehicles beyond repair and remove from service by fleet

Chairman May clarified that this has gone through the Vehicle Use Review Board during budget. Funds were appropriated for car replacement and put into contingency to be released when deemed appropriate by the Legislature. Mr. Ryan noted that this was not a shortness of funds issue. Chief Balloni agreed, noting that they were merely asking for the release of appropriated funds.

- Most are Criminal Investigation Division (CID) vehicles, Ford Taurus; also used to respond to emergency scenes and transport of victims - children, citizens and employees are transported in these vehicles



ONONDAGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Vehicle Condition

Introduction

- ▣ The following pictures are examples of problems that affect our entire fleet of Sheriff's Office emergency response vehicles. Most of CID vehicles are Taurus's and they are all having failure in the floorboard area of the vehicle. Not only do these vehicles transport our Sworn staff, they are used to transport suspects, witnesses, and children of Onondaga County.

Vehicle 1



Floorboard rusted through and hole repaired with road sign.



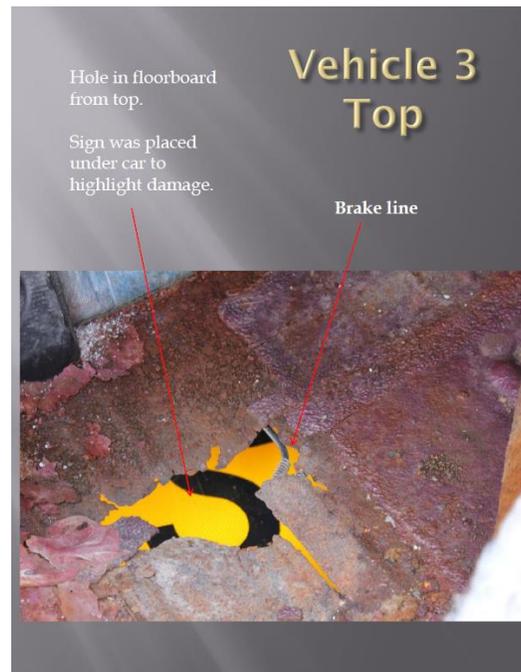
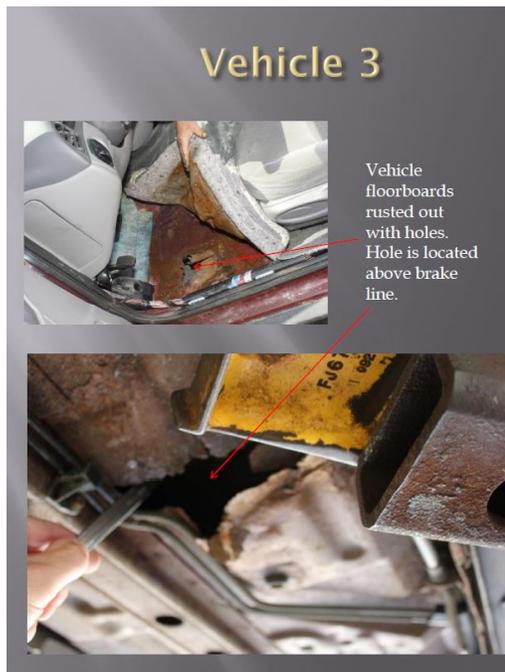
Vehicle 2

Floorboard rusting out.



Photo shows passenger side of vehicle, carpet pulled up to show repair, installed to keep feet from going through floor, top photo shows wiring on top of rusted repair

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni confirmed that WEP was making the repairs. In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni confirmed that all cars shown are in use and used every day. Chief Balloni noted that if the funds are appropriated, the cars will likely be in use for another 6 to 8 months, while they wait for the cars orders to come in and be placed on the road. Regardless of what is done over the next several months, these cars will be on the road for a while. WEP pulls cars when they are no longer able to repair them.



Rust hole above brake line very common in Ford Taurus, frames also in significant disrepair

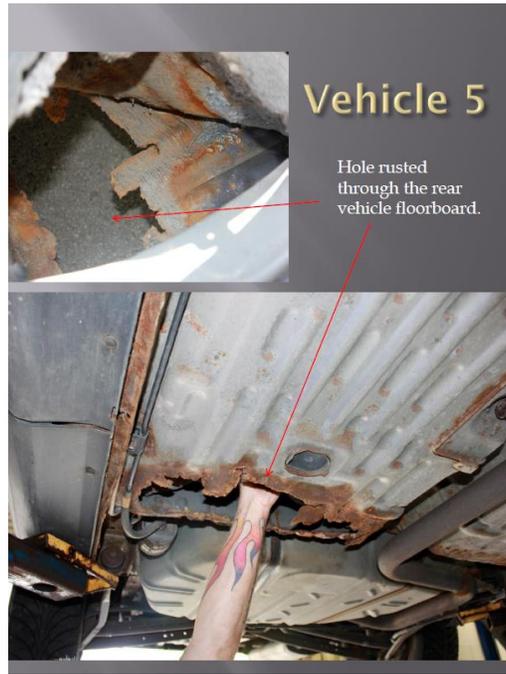
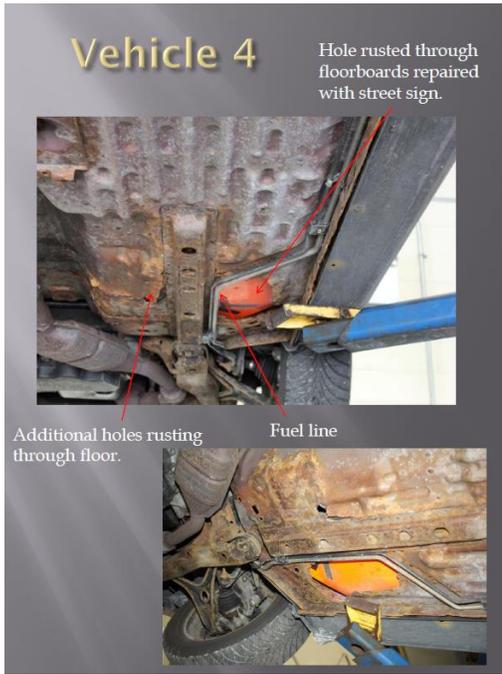
Mr. Jordan asked if the cars were rustproofed. Chief Balloni responded that they were. Mr. Jordan noted that you would normally see a fibrous black material under the cars. Chief Balloni responded that it is all gone.

Chief Balloni introduced Jerami Christian. Mr. Christian is in charge of their fleet, reports to the Chief and has requested his assistance in getting these cars off the road.

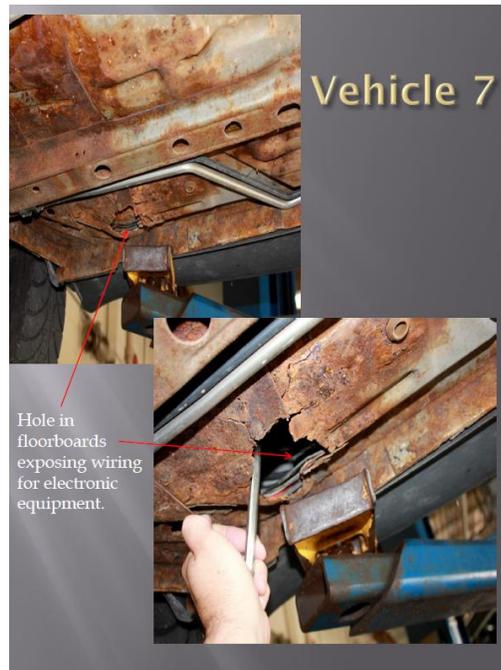
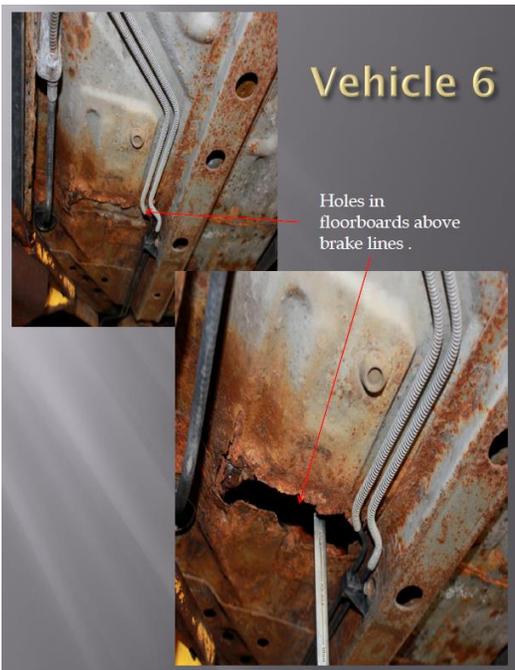
Mr. Jordan noted that he recently purchased a new car with rust proofing, for his wife. They must bring the car back every year or two for reapplication of the rust proofing. Mr. Jordan noted that this doesn't seem to be happening with these vehicles. Captain Rinella responded that these are 2005 and 2007 vehicles. They are old cars and just the nature of the weather here will result in rust. They do not go back for additional undercoating's as there aren't any funds in their budget for this. Chief Balloni added that the vehicles are purchased with rust proofing on them. Mr. Dougherty stated that in his experience rust proofing helps, but this will happen if you keep a car long enough.

In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni confirmed that none of the cars shown were in an accident and then repaired.

Chief Balloni stated that they will likely keep some of these cars. The best of the worst cars will be used to replace vehicles lost due to accidents. They need the legislature to understand their desperation for these vehicles.



Vehicles rusting through on both sides, frame also rusting; WEP pulls vehicles no longer road worthy- Sheriff's office has input



Will lose use of technology if wiring fails

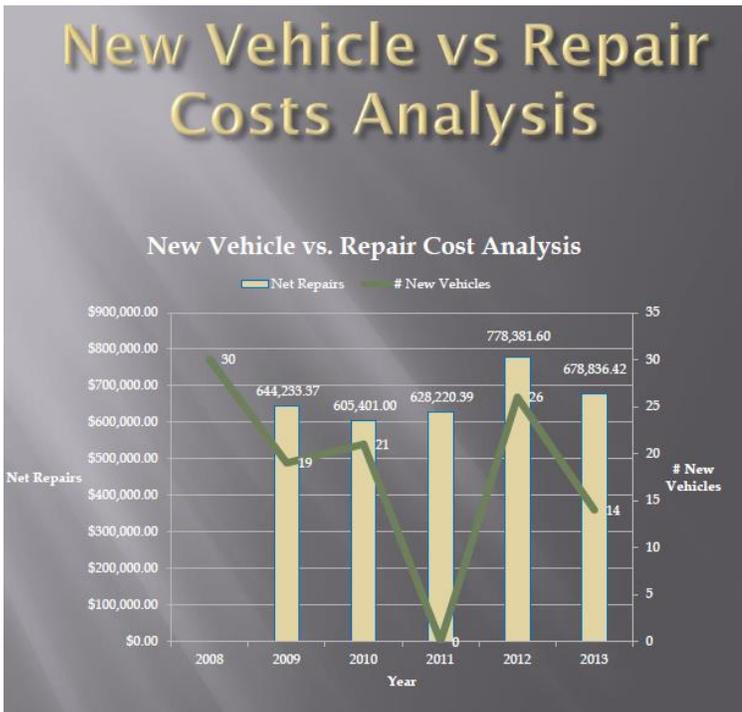
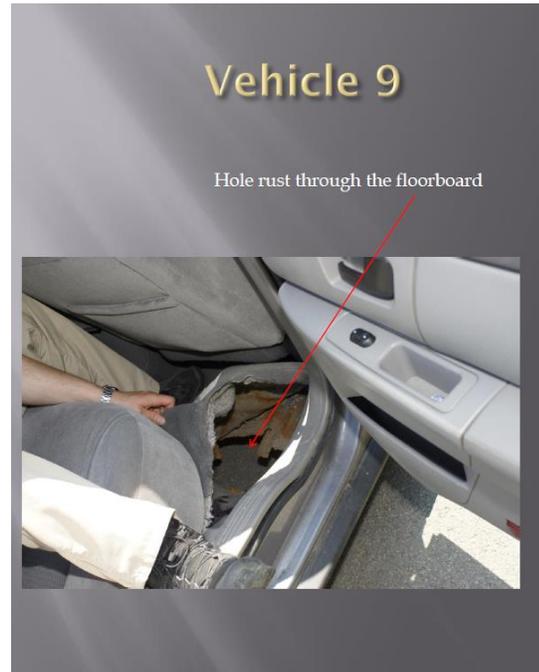
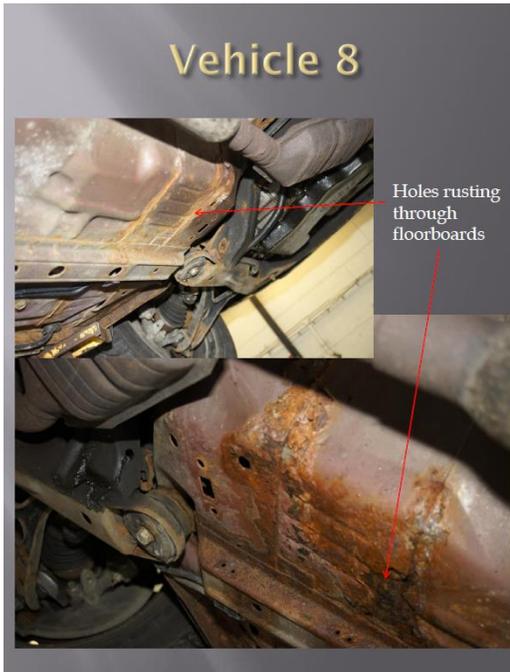


Chart was prepared to show cost benefit but wasn't included in the packet as it doesn't provide real information – cars funded in 1 year but usually not on the road until the following year. In addition, WEP runs out of budget and stops repairing cars therefore, repair numbers don't provide a true representation.

In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni stated there are roughly 200 cars in their entire fleet, including Custody.

Mr. Dougherty stated that for 2013, 14 cars were purchased and were included in the fleet total. Chief Balloni agreed, adding that they did not get enough cars in 2013 and didn't replace any in 2011 which is what has put them in this situation. This is not something that developed this year, because of contingency. They are talking about a situation that has developed since 2011, when they stopped buying cars. Mr. Dougherty asked if they had been replacing at rate of 10% a year, ignoring 2011, and 2013 was 7%. Chief Balloni responded that 10% a year would mean 20 cars and that their cars would all get to be 10 years old before replacement. He doesn't know of any agency providing emergency services with 10 year old vehicles.

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni stated that they were requesting 21 cars for this year, which is about 10% - 25 with Custody. The number is approximate as the price depends on the vehicle replaced. They look a mileage and condition and select vehicles to replace, but by the time vehicles are received they end up

unable to replace all the vehicles selected, due to unexpected losses. They then take the best of the worst and hold onto them. This is how 2005 vehicles are still in the fleet. When replacing at 10%, you must have these vehicles in the fleet, it would be impossible not to.

Chief Balloni stated that some of the vehicles are operating 24/7. Almost all are used to respond in the middle of the night. It has come to a point where, legislators need to be shown the need and discuss the situation. Chairman May stated he appreciated them bringing the information forward.

Mr. Ryan stated that the cars were in rough shape and asked if they were CID cars. Chief Balloni responded that they are CID cars that go home with investigators; doesn't know any police agency, sending investigators out in the middle of the night, that doesn't have take-home vehicles. Mr. Ryan stated this was fair, if there was a need. He suggested reducing the number of take-home vehicles, e.g. Custody, and /or realigning vehicles by risk, e.g. Internal Affairs car in better shape than CID, exchange vehicle with exposed fuel line since Internal Affairs does not respond in the evening. Chief Balloni responded that the administrative take-home cars are in equally poor shape; has loaned his car to people, but it's not a good car. The car has been towed 3 times from his driveway, has 153,000 miles and is rusting through.

Mr. Dougherty stated that it was a little crazy to be deciding who gets the unsafe car. Mr. Ryan stated that he doesn't want anyone to have an unsafe car. If there is a safe car that is not responding to emergency situations, he is suggesting taking that car away from the person not using it and giving it to an emergency responder driving an unsafe car. Captain Rinella responded that Internal Affairs ends up with stripped out, old patrol cars with 160,000 – 170,000 miles; not conducive to doing the work, have the same mechanical problems and can't be used for surveillance. They would simply be "robbing Peter to pay Paul", no progress would be made.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he would not get in or own the 9 cars displayed and he doesn't drive cars the way a police vehicle is driven. Legislators are not doing their job if something isn't done about this soon. He doesn't know if the answer is to purchase 20 or 10. The 9 cars need to be replaced and he would guess that they will see cars next year in the same condition. Mr. Christian noted that the photos provided were not from their worst vehicles, they were simply the ones they had access to in the garage. Mr. Dougherty stated this was nuts.

In answer to Chairman May, Chief Balloni confirmed that the 8 vehicles listed as beyond repair were not part of the photos presented, which are all working cars.

Mr. Dougherty stated that nobody sitting at the table would own a car held together by a street sign. Chairman May agreed, adding that Legislators need to find the important balance between what the county needs to provide for public safety and at the same time, with no less importance, ensure that the personnel providing the services are safe. Unfortunately, they also have a fiscal duty - "The devil is in the details" of the previous slide showing the correlation between cars purchased and need, compared to what they have.

Chairman May stated he appreciates them coming in and providing this information and noted that financial work needs to be done. The funds are in contingency, because the Legislature is trying to work with them to better manage their funds and tighten up certain fiscal operations of the county for taxpayers. This is very important. Safety and service are critical, but there are a few perennial issues requiring a better understanding. Chief Balloni stated that he has some perennial information to share, if he can get through the presentation. Chairman May asked to finish his thought - to get to the point, they are talking about costs incurred over the past several years. The bill was paid because it had to be, but needs to be considered and remembered because fund balance was used to shore up overtime and/or Correctional Health costs. These things must be taken into consideration. The money is in the budget because they know it is needed and the presentation backs that up, for at least a few cars.

Mr. Dougherty agreed that they need to be prudent with their spending, however if they decide not to purchase cars this year, all 200 cars in the fleet will age. He is not suggesting an expansion or reduction of the fleet, just maintaining equipment already in use. They could decide not to spend any money this year, put their head in the sand, and say they were good stewards of the money. Chairman May interjected stating that some might say that, but doesn't think that he would. Mr. Dougherty stated that this would simply push the problem to next

year. Chairman May agreed. Mr. Dougherty stated that they would be in the same position as the City sees with their sewers. It's not as if they will be able to save the money and tax less, it will only be spent tomorrow, get worse and put people in harm's way.

Mr. Dougherty stated that they have already taxed for this money and put it in contingency. The debate about the purchase has already been completed through the budget process. The funds were allocated to buy new cars; this is simply releasing the funds in contingency. The Sheriff's department has shown that there is a need for a least some of the cars; believes there is a need for all, given the mileage numbers. The Legislature needs to release the funds to purchase the cars or to at least replace the nightmare seen in front of him, and passed on Mr. Christian's comments there are probably more.

Mr. Dougherty stated he would like to see pictures of the worst vehicles, realizing it isn't easy. Chief Balloni responded that it wasn't easy because they were on the road. They took pictures of the cars in the garage at the time. The cars will be in the garage at some point, as all cars end up there. Mr. Ryan stated that he was uneasy. If there are worse vehicles he would like to see them, not just as a member of Public Safety, but as a member of the Vehicle Use Review Board. He wouldn't put his family in these vehicles. Chief Balloni stated that the Taurus is a good example of vehicles that can't be kept for 10 years.

Mr. Ryan asked that that they provide a more comprehensive report on the fleet, so that the Legislature could get their arms around the bigger problem. Chief Balloni responded that they would continue to work on it. Management and Budget sent a person to take the pictures. This is a situation where they can't bring in the worst car because it's on patrol. They will do what they can to provide more information.

Letter from WEP Crew Leader

CID Ford Taurus's:

- "...floor boards in these cars are rusted out..."
- "...bodies on these vehicles are rotting through..."
- "...cost to repair far exceeds the value of these vehicles."

Onondaga County Department of

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To Whom it May Concern:

Regarding 2005 & 2007 Ford Taurus's; we are finding that the floor boards in these cars are rusted out, the bodies on these vehicles are rotting through, and at this point in time these vehicles have high mileage. It is in our opinion that the cost to repair far exceeds the value of these vehicles.

Bob Wiluszynski

Mechanic Crew Leader @ 500 Hiawatha Blvd.

WEP Commissioner's approval received for use of quotes, agreed their fleet is in bad condition; sometimes putting \$8k-10k into cars with Bluebook value of \$3k – would be better off selling them and buying new but unable to get through review quickly enough



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To Whom It May Concern,

In review of the Sheriff's Department vehicles from 2006 and back; the vehicles in question are found to be of aged Fleet. The mileage is high and the bodies are rusting. The cost to repair these vehicles is exceeding the value at this point. Part availability for these vehicles at this point is very poor or not at all.

Equipment Maintenance Supervisor

Vehicles sorted by mileage

Sheriff's Office Vehicle Mileage

Mileage	Custody			Total number of Vehicles
	Patrol	CID	y	
0-50,000	39	6	7	52
50,000-100,000	31	25	3	59
100,000-150,000	56	22	8	86
150,000+	4	1	1	6
Beyond Repair/totaled *	2	5	1	8

* These vehicles were labeled beyond repair by WEP. There are two additional vehicles that will not pass inspections that expire in June.

Mileage not the only reason to replace a car, may keep vehicle with 150k miles if records show more reliable than 100k mile vehicle - just a matter of time before it gets to beyond repair; trouble finding parts for some vehicles; 8 cars already totaled plus the 9 shown = 17 of the 21 cars requested

In answer to Mr. Dougherty, Chief Balloni reiterated that none of the cars shown were part of the 8 cars already totaled. Mr. Christian added that in fact the number of cars totaled increased to 9 as of today. Chief Balloni added that they are now up to 18 of the 21 vehicles being discussed.

The higher the mileage on vehicles..

- ❑ The greater the chance there is for breakdown (keep in mind these vehicles are responding to emergencies)
- ❑ The greater the likelihood that repairs will be more costly and time-consuming
- ❑ The less efficient the vehicles become (data based on mileage readings and gasoline purchased)

Improving MPG

- ❑ Manufacturers are consistently improving vehicle efficiency, so we should not be seeing this pattern of decreasing efficiency
- ❑ If vehicles are replaced on a more consistent schedule, we would expect MPG to increase, not decrease
- ❑ At current gas prices, the County would save about \$70,000 per year in gasoline costs if efficiency of Sheriff's fleet increased by just 1 MPG
- ❑ Savings could easily be \$100,000 or more in gasoline costs alone by replacing vehicles in a more timely manner

Major repairs places additional stress on remaining fleet – burns up new cars faster; aren't being good stewards of taxpayer money in this case with the saving available from increased MPG

Chief Balloni stated that one of the primary concerns of the Legislature has been overtime and reviewed the following projections created by Management and Budget:

2014 Sheriff's Overtime Projection (as of 5/31/14)

	<u>Police/Civil</u>	<u>Custody</u>	<u>Total</u>
Overtime through May 31, 2013	\$ 679,471	\$ 1,003,930	\$ 1,683,401
Overtime through May 31, 2014	\$ 422,883	\$ 1,092,884	\$ 1,515,767
% Change (2014-2013)	-37.8%	8.9%	-10.0%
Actual Overtime 2013	\$ 2,130,312	\$ 3,591,418	\$ 5,721,730
Projected Overtime 2014	\$ 1,507,395	\$ 3,691,616	\$ 5,199,011
% Change (2014-2013)	-29.2%	2.8%	-9.1%
Budgeted* Overtime 2014	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 3,100,000	\$ 4,800,000
Variance (Projected - Budgeted 2014)	\$ (192,605)	\$ 591,616	\$ 399,011
% Variance to Budget	-11.3%	19.1%	8.3%

* includes Adopted and Contingent

Chief Balloni noted that the projected amount for custody is up slightly from last year. He projects that this number will go down based on the things they are doing with Correctional Health. This projection shows a total of \$399,000 over budget between the two. The number has decreased from the last time report, was close to \$500,000 at that time. They have cut back programs and navigation which should help.

Chief Balloni stated that he expects the Police/Civil overtime to increase, as they are losing a significant amount of people. Many people are waiting for a new contract before announcing their retirement. They were already down some people and now have 7 more retired; loss of senior people drives up overtime. Mr. Ryan asked if the overtime cost would be offset by the lower payroll and benefit costs. Chief Balloni responded that it would be if they were to leave all the positions vacant however, they would be down 15-20 people from the funded level for 2015. They would be unable to do this for long as it would literally put them out of business.

Chief Balloni stated that they would like to have an academy and hire some people so that they don't fall into this position, by next year. Between the academy and field training it takes about a year to replace someone. The new personnel will be substantially less expensive which will provide for some makeup in the 101. They have implemented a number of things which has drastically improved their numbers for the Legislature and don't intend to change anything they are doing to retain that number. They are doing everything they can to keep this number at or under budget. Chief Balloni knows that the overtime budget is part of the reason the vehicles are being held in contingency. They want to show the Legislature the level of effort they are expending. Their level will not change, but due to retirements and loss of personnel, which they can't control, there will be a change.

Mr. Jordan stated that they were coming into the busy season. Chief Balloni agreed, adding that this was already taken into account in the projects.

Chairman May said there is a lot to consider, a great case was made for the needs and justification. The how has to be worked out; need to insure that they are on the right track with respect to their goals.

Chairman May stated that no vote would be taken on either item today. He wanted the information to come to the Legislature for discussion; not to delay but to inform. This needs to be in the works to get people talking about it. There are safety issues with some of the vehicles which must be taken into consideration. He would be inclined to vote on these items in the very near future, once they have a chance to talk about some of the other issues that are in play.

Chairman May stated that Chief Balloni had mentioned people waiting to retire. They need to see how this shakes out as well; doesn't want to put this on hold for that reason, but these are all things that need to be thought about before a responsible decision can be made. Chief Balloni responded that they have no choice and will take whatever the Legislature comes back with, e.g. resolution reducing the number – doesn't think that would be wise, but will accept. The Sheriff's office will try to get additional information on the worst cars, as a picture is worth a thousand words.

Chief Balloni stated he knows that he is working with a group of very concerned people, but they don't know the position that the Sheriff's office is in. Legislator's needed to see this first hand and that is the reason it was brought here today.

Chairman May referenced Mr. Dougherty's comments, stating that he agrees that it doesn't make since to delay inevitable purchases of equipment. It only hurts the taxpayer in the long run. This is not something that should be delayed. It is something that the Legislature should work on right away. Chief Balloni responded that one of the other reasons they are before the committee now, is that at some point GM will give them a build out date. After that date, they will have to hold purchases until next year and they never know when the build out date is going to be. This has never been a problem in the past, but is a problem this year because of the funds being in contingency. Once notified of the date, there won't be enough time to bring it to committee and then have it voted on in the following month; timeframe will be approximately 30 days.

Mr. Ryan asked if there was a consistent build out date each year. If this is close and they are up against a deadline, the funds need to be appropriated. Mr. Christian responded that the date is normally around August. Mr. Ryan stated that if they took action on this, it would show that this committee is supportive of getting vehicles in a timely fashion. When this is factored in with everything else, they are up against a deadline. Chief Balloni added that he doesn't want anyone under any misconception - they don't know when the build out date will be. The further into the year they get, the more likely they are to be up against the deadline.

Mr. Dougherty asked if the resolution would now go to Ways and Means. Chairman May stated theoretically it could, if someone wanted to bring it. Mr. Dougherty asked if the resolution had to be voted on to go to Ways and Means. Chairman May stated that the resolution had been considered and recommends that quick homework be done on the fiscal process. The facts are pretty clear.

Mr. Ryan stated that he would like to see this sent to Ways and Means with a vote in favor from this committee. Chairman May stated that he was not prepared to vote at this time. The presentation and facts were presented today, Ways & Means is in two days, and he wants to do this right.

Mr. Dougherty asked if it was possible to get pictures of the other cars, without disrupting repair or control operations. Chief Balloni responded that it might cost them some overtime. Mr. Dougherty stated that he didn't want to be piling work on, but if it was easy the information could be completed for Ways & Means.

Chairman May stated that for him the issue is simply the fiscal logistics of how. It is not whether or not they buy cars. It is being real comfortable with the overtime forecast; there are collective bargaining issues that need to be resolved and on and on. All of those things have an effect. What is the legacy costs going to be in Correctional Health, again this is not something the Sheriff's office can control, but it tends to come out of their budget and is a reflection on their overall budget performance. These are big issues that are both important and significant and go beyond this committee. Chairman May views this as a high priority.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he is not looking to debate this. Chairman May responded that he wasn't looking to debate this either. Mr. Dougherty stated that the how is easy, there is a contingency account already allocated, it is more of a when. Chairman May reiterated he was not ready to take a vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



KATHERINE M. FRENCH, Deputy Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: **PUBLIC SAFETY**DATE: **June 11, 2014**

NAME	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
PLEASE PRINT	
Danielle Barber	Syracuse University
John Balloni	OCSO
Jennifer Friscano	Fin. Oper.
TERRI FARRIS	OCSO
Jerami Christian	OCSO
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Bill Kinne	LEG
Jim Rinella	OCSO
MARTHA CHRISTIANO	PMB