



Onondaga County Legislature

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**WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE – 2016 BUDGET REVIEW OF
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE DEPARTMENTS
DAVID KNAPP, CHAIRMAN
September 24, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Jordan, Mrs. Ervin, Ms. Williams, Mr. May, Mr. Holmquist, Mr. Kilmartin
ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Liedka, Mrs. Tassone, Dr. Chase, Mr. McMahon, see also attached list**

Chairman Knapp called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

CORRECTION, pg. 4-7 – Timothy Cowin, Commissioner; Tina Dalfo, Fiscal Officer

2015 continues to be a difficult year due to the high number of inmates at the Department of Correction and the Justice Center. It appears that will remain the same in 2016. We continue to work daily with the Sheriff's Office to ease their overcrowding situation. As of September 17th, we had fifteen adult females boarded out to Oneida County for the first time this year. We also have over eighty inmates from The Justice Center being housed at our facility. Since 2000, the population at the Department of Correction has increased by 70%, from a daily population of 312 to 534 inmates. During the same time period our staffing has dropped about 33%.

The obvious areas of concern in our budget are the 101 and 102 lines. We are requesting that both of those lines remain nearly the same as they were for 2015. The 101 line shows an increase of \$73,281, most of this increase is due to wage adjustments for step increases.

One area that has improved this year is our housing of federal inmates. We had budgeted for revenue of about \$75,000 and it appears we will have about three times that. We will continue to work with the U.S. Marshals to house their inmates at the Department of Correction as space allows, and anticipate over \$200,000 in revenue in 2016.

The Department of Correction continues to provide a significant amount of programming for the inmates:

Jamesville-Dewitt School & BOCES provide a number of educational programs:

PEACE Inc. Parenting Classes

CCA (Center for Community Alternatives) HIV/AIDS Counseling, Re-entry Programs & Substance Abuse Programs

AA & NA - Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation

Law Library & Regular Library

CNY Services - New Directions for Substance Abuse

Syracuse Behavioral Health - High Impact Incarceration Program

Religious Programming & Services

This year we will also open the Second Chance Canine Adoption Shelter. We hope the program will give dogs and inmates a second chance. The dogs will be rescued dogs that are delivered to our facility. They will be housed in the new facility where they will be assigned to an inmate to receive training and be prepared for adoption. We hope the inmate will receive life and career skills that can make a difference in their lives. Similar programs in other facilities have shown a reduction in recidivism of almost 50% for the participants. We hope this will have a positive effect on the inmates, the dogs and the families who choose to adopt these dogs.

As always the Department will continue to look at every area of our operation to ensure we operate as one of the best correctional facilities in the state in the most cost effective means possible.

Mr. Jordan:

- As usual, this is a very responsible budget
- 408 acct – prof services – explain why it is up \$1,500

Mr. Cowin:

- It's basically arbitration – there is not a lot in there to begin with. If we have a couple arbitrations; it's about \$1,500 for a day for an arbitrator

Mr. Jordan:

- 410 – all other expense – up about \$1,200 – what is the reason for it

Mr. Cowin:

- Basically rubbish and medical waste

Mr. Jordan:

- 300 acct - supplies & materials - grants budget shows an increase of approx. \$71,000 and the regular budget shows an increase as well
- Combined it is more than a \$100k in the last couple of years

Mr. Cowin:

- One of the big things is replacement cameras along with the software for it - \$51,000
- Some of the chaplain's salary has been moved to that line
- A couple other minor increases in costs – basic necessities for the inmates: clothing, blankets, mattresses, sheets, towels, etc. With the numbers going up, those costs go up too.

Mrs. Ervin:

- Receiving complaints about young people, inmates being in solitary confinement, being maintained in their cell and not being able to do things for over 24 hours as a punishment for bad behavior
- Understands that bad behavior needs to be punished, but doesn't understand a 16 year old being in a cell for like 40 hours without any contact with anyone - has had more than one complaint about this recently
- Asked about the rationale for this – it seems that a young person should at least be seeing someone about education, as entitled to while there

Mr. Cowin:

- The minors are probably the most problematic cases; their conduct is usually outrageous
- Punitive segregation is a thing that happens – it is really the only thing we have
- There is talk about the State saying that minors will no longer be in our facility; I am certainly all for it because they are problematic
- Some areas of the country have tried to deal with this – the only thing that has been successful is putting them in a unit with one officer for every 2 or 3 individuals. If we do that, our costs will be way up.
- Punitive segregation goes on everywhere in the country whether it is a minor or an adult.
- A reverend, who is not fond of it, said he knows one guy that every time he is let out, he beats somebody up. That is the case – what do we do with that individuals. I wish I had an answer.
- There are all kinds of programming with those individuals, they get psychiatric help, but many have never had consequences for their actions. They think they are going to come in there and change the program. After a while, they learn what the program is.
- Some of the older ones came in as juveniles. Now they come in, do their time and go home and we don't have any issues.

Mrs. Ervin:

- Aren't they entitled to an education, entitled to see someone for that

Mr. Cowin:

- All minors are forced to go to education, even when they are not required to go. If they don't have a GED or high school diploma, we make them to go to education. If they are in punitive seg they can't go – obviously we can't let them go and beat up teachers and kids.

Mrs. Ervin:

- In punitive seg, how do they get educated.

Mr. Cowin:

- They will not get educated; it is not required by law. They are 16 and can bail out on their own if they want. Even the ones that don't want to go, we make them go. It's only the ones that we can't control – would love to have an answer for it.

Mrs. Ervin:

- They have not bailed out; you have made them bail out by keeping in that cell
- Doesn't understand how we can continue to do that – by law they should be able to be educated
- You have bailed him out by keeping him in the cell and not letting him see his teacher – is it legal and correct

Mr. Cowin:

- It is legal
- We have no options

Mrs. Ervin:

- I think you are skirting the issue here
- Is the punitive thing you are doing making any difference – are they ok after being in a cell for 45 hours

Mr. Cowin:

- Some actually do respond

Mrs. Ervin:

- Would like to know the successes; the whole process is very flawed

Mr. Cowin:

- I would love to hear an answer; no one in the country has one

Mrs. Ervin:

- I don't have an answer, but there has to be an answer rather than putting 16-17 year olds in a cell for 40 hours doing nothing
- Would like a list of how many young people are in this situation; what happens when they come out – any success with it
- I'm not happy with it at all – getting too many complaints about it to sit quietly. It's not OK; there has to be a better answer than this

Mr. Cowin:

- I wish we had answer, but we don't. There has to be some control over those inmates – you can let them run their unit and beat everybody up.
- They throw urine at you, throw feces at you, they will spit at you, they will punch you – it happens every day.
- We had it last night – 2 kids fighting and we tried to separate them and they were spitting at the officer
- You can't give them a hug and say "go ahead"; it doesn't work.

Mrs. Ervin:

- I'm not suggesting that, but not suggesting keeping them in a cell for 48 hours with no contact with someone makes sense either

Chairman Knapp:

- Clarification – Mrs. Ervin is asking for the number in solitary confinement and the number of successes

Mr. Jordan:

- It's a moving target – tomorrow's number will be different than today's

Chairman McMahon:

- Is there consistent patterns; it is the same inmate over and over again; what type of behavior is leading up to that type of punitive action
- What you describe is horrific and completely unacceptable
- Perception in overall community is that this is a serious problem and widespread – doesn't know if its widespread with all the juvenile inmates or if there are 5 or 6 bad actors consistently going through it

Mr. Cowin:

- There are some that are the bad actors; names he knows off the top of his head – not a good sign; there are a couple that keep coming back
- They come back to the facility; some are 16 -17 years old have been there a couple of times; have been through the juvenile process a couple of times; the courts don't lock people away for no reason at all

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Increase in population of 70% since 2000 – has anyone in the county looked to see if there is one primary reason for the significant spike: have the number of arrests gone up significantly; number of arrests stayed about the same, but the number of sentences to jail increased significantly; a huge spike in the federal inmates – or a combination of all of these factors

Mr. Cowin:

- Federal inmates have gone down – pushes it to the other direction
- Length of stay has increased substantially
- One cause is that the inmate has changed substantially over the years; even 15-20 years ago you had the disorderly conducts, public intoxications and harassments – they would get 15 – 30 days
- We don't get those any more – it's the robberies, rape, burglaries that have been reduced to something else and are getting a year or two.
- Getting the one and ones all of the time – they kill the numbers because that person is not getting out – have gotten people for 3 years, but by law can only stay 2 and are released then – a third off for good time

Chairman Knapp:

- What's the status of the 16 – 17 year olds at the state – talking about changing it to 18

Mr. Cowin:

- Some money was put aside last year in the budget, but the program itself wasn't worked out
- At one point the idea was that they were going to start with 16 year olds and move them to other facilities

Chairman Knapp:

- It could have a tremendous impact on Hillbrook

Chairman Knapp

- Typically how many 16-17 year olds are at Jamesville

Mr. Cowin:

- The numbers are down; we house them all – downtown has none anymore; there are probably between 30 - 40; today there is 35

Chairman Knapp:

- Are correction officers CSEA

Mr. Cowin:

- Yes

Chairman Knapp;

- Is money built in assuming some kind of a resolution

Mr. Morgan:

- No; it's put in county general – general fund as a whole and will distribute it

Chairman Knapp:

- How are you looking on overtime for the year

Mr. Cowin:

- Overtime budget is good – we are under right now

Chairman Knapp:

- Do you have the same constant watch type situation (as Justice Center)

Mr. Cowin:

- They have more numbers than we do, but we always have a couple on a constant watch
- Constant watches and hospitals are what kills the overtime because of the one on one situation
- Jamesville set up is a one on two – have looked at construction on ways to change it to a one on 4, but it would be substantial to change it at our facility

Chairman Knapp:

- Food service contract – is is long term

Mr. Cowin:

- It's up at the end of this year; going out to bid; it is \$1.17/meal; going to \$1.21 shortly - they have a built in raise
- Multi-year contract – this is the 5th years – was 3 with 2 year renewals

Chairman Knapp⁷

- Health contract – is the the same as Justice Center

Mr. Cowin:

- It's the same contract

Mr. Morgan:

- Sheriff manages it and they spread the cost to Correction and Hillbrook accordingly

Chairman Knapp:

- Solar panels - status

Mr. Cowin:

- It is though County Facilities – it is all surveyed; blocked off, construction has not started; it is supposed to start next month
- Ground based – not on a roof – on back, south side of the facility, outside the fence, along Taylor Road

Chairman Knapp

- 15 females in Oneida – what's the cost/day

Mr. Cowin:

- Sheriff pays the bill because we clear them out for them, it is approx. \$80-\$85 each

Chairman Knapp:

- Dog shelter – it doesn't look like you have anything in your budget related; may have a little overtime or 103 towards it

Mr. Cowin:

- Hoping by using the staff we have now and our outside crew, we will be able to do it alright
- Friends group will raise money and will be able to fund any issues that come up, i.e. training
- Hope to open in mid-October

Chairman Knapp thanked Commissioner Cowin for being a good neighbor to the the Jamesville Fire Department; they are a good neighbor too and value the relationship. It's a win-win for everybody. Mr. Cowin said that they help a lot; use their facility all the time, and they are at the facility several times a day.

SHERIFF, pg. 4-68 – Eugene Conway, Sheriff; Jason Cassalia, Under Sheriff; Kenneth Andrews, Chief/Civil; Esteban Gonzalez, Chief/Custody; Joseph Ciciarelli, Chief/Police

Sheriff Conway:

- First 9 mos. of the administration - working very diligently in trying to understand the operations of the Sheriff's office
- Mission is to understand each and every area of the operation of the Sheriff's office
- Acknowledged Mr. Morgan, Mrs. Venditti, Ms. Fricano who have helped them with the budget – have relied on them greatly
- Any success going forward will not be because of me, but because of the command team
- Confident going forward that we will be success to the point that the members in the room and the community overall is proud of the Sheriff's office
- We have a mission, a vision, and not only a code of ethics, but some guiding principles

Undersheriff Cassalia:

- Beginning in January - tasked by the Sheriff to begin an assessment of the organization as it stands
- Professionalism was the key; dependent on our ability to where effectiveness and efficiency met, so when we identify areas, we could focus efforts on those areas
- One of the first things was to identify our vision – where are we as an organization going; where do we see ourselves; where do we want to be

Undersheriff Cassalia submitted the following:

- *Initial conversation on Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, and Code of Ethics adopted by the OCSO.*



2016 Annual Budget Report

Sheriff	Eugene Conway
Undersheriff	Jason Cassalia
Police Chief	Joseph Ciciarelli
Custody Chief	Esteban Gonzalez
Civil Chief	Kenneth Andrews

VISION

Through a culture of excellence, professional commitment to our mission and adherence to our value system, we will demonstrate in every decision, with every contact, that the members the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office are among the finest public servants in the Nation. We will strive to provide our residents a safe environment in which to live, through effective Civil, Custody, and Police Operations, all while efficiently utilizing public funds. We commit to honor the public trust by employing transparency, collaboration, valuing partnerships and providing dignity to all to ensure operations consistent with the values of a free society.

- Culture of excellence; professional commitment
- Committed to honoring public trust
- Focused on transparency, collaboration, valuing partnerships, valuing dignity
- Upholding values of free society
- Police legitimacy across the country is being questioned – have to look first into ourselves

Mission Statements



- 3 distinctively different things tied under one organization

—GUIDING PRINCIPLES—

INTEGRITY:

We are committed to uphold our position of public trust by living up to our Sworn Oath and by maintaining the highest ethical standards as set forth in the Deputy Sheriff Code of Ethics.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

We hold ourselves accountable for our actions; freely admit our mistakes and we welcome the conversation and oversight that comes from this responsibility. We value our members and have confidence in their individual initiative and ability to solve problems. We believe that open, honest and sincere communication is critical to a healthy work environment. We value transparency as a vehicle to ensure the public trust, even in times of challenge.

COMMUNITY SAFETY:

We are committed to public safety through community partnerships, preparedness, crime prevention strategies and steadfast enforcement of violations of the law.

CUSTOMER SERVICE:

We are committed to professional and courteous service, with empathy and compassion infused into our unbiased actions.

EXCELLENCE:

We commit to EXCELLENCE, in all we do, with every contact, with every action; we work as ONE TEAM to attain the highest of standards. We take pride and receive satisfaction from giving our very best, every time.

- Manner which is expected to operate-important to operation
- Centered around expectation that the public has
- Compassion & empathy – integral to guiding principles
- Have to set the bar for membership and for all to know what they are committed to doing every day

CODE OF ETHICS

As a Deputy Sheriff, I recognize that I am given a special trust and confidence by the Sheriff and the public that I serve. This trust and confidence is my bond to ensure that I shall behave and act according to the highest professional principles. In furtherance of this pledge, I will abide by the following Code of Ethics:

I SHALL ENSURE that in the performance of my duties, I will enforce and administer the law according to the principles of the United States Constitution and applicable laws of our State, so that equal protection of the law and due process are guaranteed to everyone. To that end, I shall not permit personal opinions, biases, prejudices, party affiliation or consideration of the status of others to alter or lessen these principles.

I SHALL DEMONSTRATE standards of behavior consistent with the responsibilities, duties, obligations and functions of a Deputy Sheriff.

I SHALL NOT ENGAGE in NOR CONDONE brutal, cruel, inhumane treatment of others or of inmates in my care and custody.

I SHALL ADHERE at all times, to the standards and principles of honesty and integrity and I shall keep my private life unswayed as an example to all.

I SHALL ENSURE that there is proper use and accountability of property and funds entrusted to my care.

I SHALL PRACTICE sound judgments and decisions in fulfilling the assigned responsibilities, duties and functions of my position as Deputy Sheriff.

I SHALL ENDEAVOR to maintain those standards of objectivity and merit for which I was hired, to the best of my ability.

I SHALL ENDEAVOR to perform my duties in a competent and excellent manner according to the standards given to me in my training and supervision.

I SHALL ENSURE that during my tenure I shall not use the position of Deputy Sheriff for personal gain or self-aggrandizement and I will conduct myself in the position of Deputy Sheriff according to the best of my skill and power.

I ACCEPT and will adhere to this Code of Ethics. In so knowing I also accept responsibility for encouraging others in my profession to abide by this Code.

- Adopted by National Sheriff's Association
- Members need to adopt these things
- Important – sets towards the standard of professional of obtaining and moving towards professional accreditation

Undersheriff Cassalia submitted the following:

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies was formed in 1979 as a credentialing organization through the joint efforts of law enforcements major executive associations:

- *International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)*
- *National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)*
- *National Sheriff's Association (NSA)*
- *Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)*
- *CALEA pre-eminent accrediting body for law enforcement, public safety communications, public safety training academy and campus safety programs.*

The CALEA Accreditation Process is a proven modern management model presents the Chief Executive [Officer \(CEO\)](#), on a continuing basis

- *blueprint that promotes the efficient use of resources and improves service delivery-regardless of the size*

This accreditation program provides law enforcement agencies an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet an established set of professional standards which:

- *Requires an agency to develop a comprehensive, well thought out, uniform set of written directives. This is one of the most successful methods for reaching administrative and operational goals, while also providing direction to personnel.*
- *Requires the build of reviews and analyses to make data driven decisions for the CEO to make fact-based, informed management decisions.*
- *Requires a preparedness program be put in place - so an agency is ready to address natural or man-made critical incidents.*
- *Are a means for developing or improving upon an agency's relationship with the community.*
- *Strengthen an agency's accountability, both within the agency and the community, through a continuum of standards that clearly define authority, performance, and responsibilities.*
- *Can limit an agency's liability and risk exposure because it demonstrates that internationally recognized standards for law enforcement have been met, as verified by a team of independent outside CALEA-trained assessors through a rigorous off-site and onsite process which includes public forums, review of agency practice, and requires proofs of compliance with all standards..*
- *Facilitates an agency's [pursuit](#) of professional excellence.*
- *The OCSO is moving towards this process. All internal operations are undergoing evaluations to identify effectiveness and efficiencies along with ensuring they meet best practice and best policy.*

2015 Accomplishments

- Implemented a volunteer Chaplaincy program to serve the OCSO Deputies and others involved in critical incidents that arise.
- Aggressively updated the Marked Patrol Fleet through a unique financing plan developed in conjunction with County Finance.
- Implemented a new software program for Civil Process Administration to streamline the reporting and accounting of court ordered civil transactions.
- Secured NYS Commission of Corrections approval to supervise 4 inmates with one deputy in constant observation cells reducing overtime demands.
- Adopted a newly developed crime control model leading to a more effective and efficient Police service response

2015 Accomplishments

- Air One assisted several fire agencies to control active fire scenes, transport injured individual for emergency treatment, search and locate several lost or missing individuals, as well as, assisted in many active policing operations throughout the county.
- Secured a new trained narcotics dog for the K-9 unit as well as a new vehicle for the K-9 transport through grant funding.

Sheriff Conway:

- Accomplishments - office wide and also within each of the departments
- Volunteer Chaplaincy – 3 chaplains that have agreed to serve
- Fleet: 3-yr plan; started to address take-home vehicles – reduced by 8 or 9 vehicles; continue to do that and have revised the policy on vehicles allowed to be taken home

Staffing

■ Total Police Personnel	212
■ Total Custody Personnel	272
■ Total Civil Personnel	10
■ Total Civilian Personnel	47
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Sheriff's Office Total	541

- Approved for filling vacancies as they have been occurred for 2015
- Have 18 police recruits in an academy – in 2nd week of 25 week academy
- 18 recruits fill vacancies created over the last several months mainly through retirements
- Custody academy was in place when he took office; they have graduated and completed their FTO – now on their own in Custody dept.
- Have been able to fill vacancies in Civil

Annual Service Data

- **Police:** Dispatched to an avg. of 90,000 calls for service per year.
- **Custody:** Houses over 10,500 arrestees per year.
- **Civil:** Completed over 10,000 civil summons, executions, & protection orders earning over \$600,000 in fees per year.

2016 Budget Highlights

- Air One costs are in the operating budget for greater transparency.
- 2016 Overtime more closely reflects actual usage.
- Sheriff office is requesting a modest increase for Identification cards and fingerprinting fees.
- Continued implementation of 3 year vehicle replacement plan.
- 2016 capitalized equipment requests.

- Air One – asked to know where the funding was in 2015; it is in the 2016 request
- Overtime - believes the 2016 request will more closely reflect the actual usage; have worked diligently to reduce it overall
- ID cards & Fingerprinting – currently provide those services as cost alone without any allowance for time and effort to provide them – asking for modest increase
- 3-yr vehicle replacement plan – maintain a vehicle fleet in a law enforcement agency – part of the work; need vehicles – philosophy is to plan ahead for it – having a good vehicle fleet plan helps reduce costs over time; plan allows for a safe vehicle
- Looking at minimizing the amount of vehicles that don't need to be assigned – have to work within contractual guidelines

Account	Description	2016 Executive Budget
641010 Total	Regular Employee Salaries	\$31,080,216
641020 Total	Overtime	\$5,558,040
641030 Total	Part-time Employee Salaries	\$807,200
648650 Total	Group Life Ins	\$14,836
691260 Total	Capitalized Furnish & Equip	\$162,503
671500 Total	Automotive Equip Bud & Exp	\$614,500
693000 Total	Supplies & Materials Bud Load	\$1,402,987
694010 Total	Travel Training Bud Load	\$104,200
694080 Total	Professional Services Budget Load	\$202,405
694100 Total	All Other Expenses Budget Load	\$143,823
695700 Total	Contractual Exp	\$11,556,863
694130 Total	Maint. Utilities, Rents Budget	\$1,072,551
674800 Total	Provisions for Capital Projects	\$165,185
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.	TOTAL	\$52,765,078

Mr. May:

- Thank you for the progress; the working relationship with the Public Safety Committee has been excellent
- Striving every day to make efforts – have help from Mr. Morgan and his team and Ms. Fricano – getting us information
- Level of transparency and collaboration has gone up an awful lot in a short timeframe – much appreciated

- Doesn't see many surprises in this budget - knows where you are going and what you want to do because of dialogue
- Agrees to giving Air One some transparency so we can all monitor what it is costing

Mr. May asked to be provided with the program budget for Air One.

Mr. May:

- Furn., Furnishings and Equipment line – explain the increase

Ms. Fricano:

- It includes 4 main items: a license plate reader, 12 SIU radios, camera and audio security equipment for Justice Center, an air conditioner for a server room at the Justice Center

Mr. Jordan:

- Jail overcrowding issue – was disappointed by memo received – doesn't seem like we really have advanced; interprets the memo as we are still analyzing this
- Recollects that we are losing \$200k/month between what we are paying out to house our prisoners elsewhere and what we are losing out on revenue that we would otherwise receive from housing federal inmates
- This thing has been going on for years; years it has been analyzed and essentially now we want to analyze it further
- Understands wanting to pursue alternatives to incarceration, an admirable goal, but not a novel idea – we have been looking at it for decades
- To think we will come up with this new novel idea tomorrow, which will significantly reduce our need to house inmates is probably not very probable
- In the meantime, we are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars every single month
- I am sounding very impatient because I am; this has been languishing for years – wants a decision made; seeing a report that we want to study this further, didn't make me terribly happy

Sheriff Conway:

- The 20-year old Justice Center is either full or nearly full almost every month of the year; this is our peak time; just last week had to board out some inmates
- In looking at this, and therefore adding on to have enough beds to generate income, is not something I am interested in, mainly because it will require more employees, more deputies, more services.
- It's not just the revenue coming in, but everything that comes with it.
- Doesn't think I'm in a position right now with labor issues to say I welcome that so that we can say we also add 20 more deputies
- Is everything that comes with that going to be a true plus for us
- Would rather focus on knowing what the cost is going to be to add on vs. can we renovate to make it acceptable for needs and desires
- Not really interested in more studies, because they are costly, but doesn't think it will take that much work to determine putting on a new tower, new wing with 50, 100 or 150 beds – a pretty easy determination to make
- If we are going to look at this, then why aren't we looking at a structure that is 20 years old, when built was a design of the times, but is it now the best accommodating set up for what we are faced with
- Have oversight from the State Commission on Correction – we don't call all of the shots
- I walk in there as a new person and start to ask questions, i.e. can this pod be redesigned so we don't need as many deputies to be watching inmates
- Doesn't think it requires a full-blown study; requires someone to come in and have some understanding of this and come up with a cost
- Alternatives to incarceration – sat in a meeting a few months ago; the Commissioner on Corrections was pointing out that he has weekend inmates – he said that by the time they get there and get processed, it is time to leave – the cost, the labor and time that goes with it. A judge at the meeting said "I didn't realize that when I sentenced people to weekends that that's what happens."
- Are we really looking at ways to minimize our costs and make sure that people that are incarcerated, the purpose of incarceration is really to guarantee their reappearance, are going to come back
- Would like to try to facilitate those discussions so it keeps my cost down and the taxpayers cost down; we minimize risk to inmates and deputies

- Together, with information received which shows jail populations are starting to go down, I'm not ready to say let's build a 4th wing

Mr. Jordan:

- Not necessarily saying building a 4th wing is the answer. If we can rehabilitate what we have now to reduce overtime costs for constant watch, I'm all in favor of it.
- This thing has languished for so long, wants to be at a point of saying these are the options, these are the costs, have a cost benefit analysis for each option; let's keep moving forward to address the situation

Sheriff Conway:

- I'm all for moving forward--if somebody could help me with starting to find out who I reach out to and how I pay for what work they are going to do
- If, i.e. it costs \$100k to renovate 15 cells, we can do a calculation on how much overtime will be saved from deputies assigned to it
- Important to know that and what it would cost to add 50 new beds as part of a new wing, and cost for staffing it
- Would be happy to come back to the legislature with the options and costs associated and ask which way everybody feels we should go

Mr. Jordan:

- Do you have an idea of when we will be at that point

Sheriff Conway:

- I need help, as being new to this position – how do we go about looking for people to come in and help us estimate those costs

Chairman Knapp:

- Broome and Cortland counties are going through this now – considering building an addition or doing something to alleviate overcrowding and sending people out - encouraged reaching out to them
- Some other counties have done the temporary pod approach, which obviously is much less expensive; semi-permanent structures to take care of situation now and hopefully down the road if the population goes down, we can get rid of them relatively easily.
- No room down here for them, but certainly there is at Jamesville

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Thanked the Sheriff and his team for all efforts this year; have all been extremely responsive, engaged on all relevant issue, cooperative in working with the legislature. There has been vast improvements – a help to you and to us and a big benefit to taxpayers as well.
- Jail overcrowding: understands Mr. Jordan's frustration, it's an issue we have been dealing with. At the same time feels you are doing the absolute right thing – being very, very deliberate about this
- You have overcrowding that has to be dealt with on a daily basis, but at the same time the cost of quickly moving forward with a new facility/wing/floor, and all personnel associated, could be a staggering cost
- You are doing the right thing – engaging with courts and state to try to find ways to mitigate those costs; it might be a slower process, but a better result in the end
- Has data been evaluated on inmates housed at the Justice Center – is it different arraignment results, number of arrests, number detained, or other factors

Chief Gonzalez:

- 10 years of studies – 2005-2015 – we have gone from 14,000 admissions/year down to 10,400-10,500 - female population has spiked drastically over the last 10 years
- Average length of stay in 2005 was just under 11 days, today it is 24-25 days--2.5 times what it was
- Mathematically – count the certain number of beds and how long they stay there – that is cause downtown for the continuation of lack of bed space
- All the practices haven't changed, the arrest numbers have gone up as the population has gone up; judiciary process hasn't changed drastically
- In the study, there is nothing else they can point a finger at.

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Asked for clarification on the admissions going down

Chief Gonzalez:

- Just a few years back there was 13,000-14,000 admissions/year; last year it was 10,407

Mr. Kilmartin:

- It could mean that arrests are down

Chief Gonzalez:

- Arrests in general are down, but more violent crime rates, per some stats in the county, might be up a little. When they are arrested, they are staying much longer in our facilities.

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Is the longer stay because the city court system is backed up, or more arrests are felonies and going through the grand jury process, have you been able to pinpoint the stay issue

Chief Gonzalez:

- Doesn't think city court is backed up that much; have been ongoing studies about a different model and how we could look at arraignments more efficiently. It is more that the crime is more violent and they are in for longer. The defense attorneys will fight to keep them local rather than have them sentenced and go off to state time.

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Usually every year the DA's speaks about the period before a matter goes to indictment -- it is very short, much shorter than any other counties across the state -- DA's are turning cases very quickly. If they are turning them quickly, and there is still a significant issue with the length of stay, it might be to the point of the number of violent crimes and those in the grand jury process

Chief Gonzalez:

- DA says 70 days – it is lower than the rest of the state.
- The ones that are in are seemingly staying longer based upon the crimes that have been committed.

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Has your office or others throughout the state looked at or evaluated video arraignments and effectiveness/efficiency of them

Sheriff Conway:

- Not just video arraignments but watching inmates through video – does not understand whoever is against it in this state
- It would actually provide better observation of inmates, rather than less. The technology today with cameras and video monitors is tremendous. Other states are doing this; it works; it saves money.
- Can see an entire cell better with a camera than with a person's 2 eyes
- All in favor of video arraignment and video monitoring of inmates

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Are either of those done anywhere in the state

Chief Gonzalez:

- Supports the Sheriff on video monitoring – it would need a change in the legislation. The minimum standard doesn't allow for it. It has to be a person watching.
- Have visited over 300 jails across the country, and many states have an officer watching a whole panel of inmates either on frequent check or suicidal. Nothing happens because the camera is on them 24/7 – can't hide in a cell and got to a blind spot – it's more observation
- The NYS Commission on Corrections published the minimum standards for local jails. The standard as it stands is "continuous human observation without the aid of audio visual or other electronic devices."

Mr. Jordan:

- Do you know what their objection is to allowing it.

Chief Gonzalez:

- It's been that way for years; does not know personally what (the objection) is now; it's been the standard for decades

Mr. Jordan:

- Has there been an effort to change that

Chief Gonzalez:

- Not aware of an concerted effort

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Reimbursed overtime for officers dedicated to outside events – what degree is it occurring, is it still occurring, i.e. Beak and Skiff during their busy season

Sheriff Conway:

- There is secondary employment, which would speak to an organization that wants to hire armed security. I have to approve that request/permit.
- Also there are contractual agreements with some municipalities, which is the reimbursed overtime: Towns of Pompey, Salina, Van Buren. Formal agreements with the Sheriff's office to provide additional services, usually traffic enforcement. There is a reimbursement back to the county for it.

Chairman Knapp:

- Town of Pompey had a formal agreement used weekly for court security. If court goes short, the remainder of the time they do traffic enforcement in targeted areas. It has worked out very well.

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Are officers deployed with contracts with business - to provide officers for quasi security or traffic control, which deploys some manpower as opposed to some of the normal functions within the office.

Sheriff Conway:

- Glad this was brought up – starting to rise to the surface, especially when it comes to grants
- We receive a grant to help another agency for a specific effort and the grant is for funding and personnel costs – I'm starting to see that these monies come in, which is good, but we continue to operate with a finite number of deputies.
- What is starting to happen, i.e. Salina, Pompey, GIVE initiative in the City - all reimbursed or grant funded operations, but we are still operating with the same finite number of deputies. I hope that we are not able to fulfill those obligations because we still have our primary mission to do. Continue to ask that same number of deputies to service all of these requests.
- Secondary employment comes with my permission; is an agreement with that deputy and whoever is employing them for that purpose

Chairman Knapp:

- A large apple orchard had 3 deputies for traffic control over the weekend. They need it; assumes they are reimbursing the deputies individually or reimbursing the department.

Sheriff Conway:

- Individually

Chairman Knapp:

- For Apple Festival we contract with deputies individually to help us.

Chairman McMahon:

- Regarding the case with the 3 deputies with Centro – can these deputies have side arrangements with Centro by themselves or do they have to go up the chain of command

Sheriff Conway:

- Any secondary employment has to be approved by my office; any wearing of the uniform or in plain clothes has to be approved

Mr. Kilmartin:

- County wide evidence facility discussed in the past – have you had any discussions about it with authorities or the DA's office t it; what's the current condition of that facility; where do you see the issue going in the future

Sheriff Conway:

- Regarding a combined multi agency facility, I was part of it on the opposite end when in Dewitt
- Other agencies in the county were canvassed as to their interest in it, and Dewitt already had that arrangement with the Sheriff's office – certain types of evidence were already going to Joy Road
- Other agencies, by and large, either because they didn't really have a need for it – didn't have that much evidence/property coming in or space wasn't an issue
- Understands that there was some discussions with the City, but there wasn't any real interest in it
- Has seen plans that the previous administration had come up with – have discussed it and observed it. I don't think it's the best way to go at the moment.
- Regarding facilities – have 2 main concerns: heliport and property evidence at Joy Road; concern is the condition of those structures
- Understands that there is a plan for Joy Road – to remove part of that structure
- Has made people in County Executive's office aware of the condition of the property evidence unit

- It has reached such a stage that now with the last flooding, it is starting to compromise evidence; had conversations with the DA about it, who is extremely concerned
- Evidence is kept there from homicides all the way down to minor crimes; a property evidence unit is always a situation where you have more stuff than you have room for
- Has started to look at it in addition not the heliport
- The building of the heliport is deplorable – just driving by is embarrassing
- Concerned about the construction of it – in addition to the helicopter, there is close to \$1 million of equipment stored inside of that building.
- Taken steps, through an agreement with 174th Air National Guard, they will house our helicopter at one of the hangars they have available. Hopefully that it will be done without any costs to us.
- It is a temporary solution for that piece of equipment, but there are other things: Bearcat, SWAT trailer, bomb van, and many other vehicles that need to get out of there. At some point, something will happen, and the equipment inside will be compromised or damaged.
- Command team is starting to explore, at least temporarily, where we could house equipment and personnel until we can come up with a better plan to present to the legislature and county executive
- Welcomes anyone in the room to take a look to see if you have the same thoughts

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Knows it was a concern of prior administration as well – would be a good topic to discuss during the remainder of the year and in 2016 – analyze what the best step forward is for the helicopter, related equipment, and separately the evidence – utilizing an existing county facility for one or both, if there is excess county land if a new structure needs to be developed
- Is sure the DA's office is very sensitive about the evidence related issues; doesn't know if there a means to engage City of Syracuse as to how they store their evidence

Mrs. Ervin:

- Thanked the Sheriff and team – impressed with the things done so far; looks forward to more changes
- Likes the idea of culture change – it certainly is needed
- Provided an example where she was spoken to by a Sheriff's deputy in an unacceptable tone
- Culture has to change and trickle all the way down to those folks out on the roads – needs to go a lot further

Mrs. Erin:

- Referred to discussion during the Correction presentation – young people held in a cell for bad behavior – asked how it is handled at the Justice Center

Chief Gonzalez:

- The reason juveniles are at Jamesville is strictly for a matter of space; there are 27 minors in custody in Onondaga County right now
- We have 60 bed pods; if we kept them down here we would in essence be wasting 43 cells
- That's not the optimal solution – would like to still be able to keep them; it is a collaborative effort to maximize bed space
- Wants to differentiate between isolation and administrative restriction or segregation – we share the concern on that
- There have been many studies done on mental health and the effects of the deprivation from any contact from anybody coming to their cell – we share that concern
- In the Justice Center when we lock somebody into their room for administrative segregation or restriction; it's the same as any other housing unit. There is a cell right next to them; they are not down a hall; they have contact; they have all of the rights and privileges of a presentence facility. They still have medical and mental health, still allowed visitation. Even if they are violent, they will be put in secure visits, move them in full restraints, but still do everything we can in order to get them the contact that they deserve by law. They are innocent until proven guilty.
- For education – it is true that on the outside a 16 year old can decide to drop out of school. We have tiptoed and haven't been called on the carpet. Technically, those inmates can't be forced to continue in the GED program. We do because we believe it is necessary for them to get their high school education.

- If they are dangerous, we do cell study – work with Syr. City School District. If the inmate is violent and it is dangerous for the teacher to go and get assaulted, we will send them a packet that is authorized by the teacher. They will do their work in their cell. Every day we ask them if they are going to go along with the program, going to behave, going to show that you have a reason to come out and not endanger everybody. That is the process we have used for years for that segment of the population.
- Those inmates are no longer with us; they are at Jamesville. Even the ones that get locked in that are adults, we allow them – they still get cell study. The education process doesn't stop if they are locked in, it is a modified environment.

Mrs. Ervin:

- Sounds different than Jamesville; it sounds reasonable

Chief Gonzalez:

- Discussed this nationally with the American Jail Association: isolation to all in this room denotes a hallway, no human contact, locked away, and lost the key – that it is not. You need to be able to restrict people in order to keep institutional safety in a jail. That's not what we are talking about here. They do have contact, are not isolated from anybody in the facility.

Mrs. Ervin asked that we look at what is happening at Jamesville differently.

Mrs. Ervin:

- Air One – would like to see information on how much it is costing us and how we are funding it again.
- Although we want to have it, don't want to be saddled with something that will hurt us going forward.

Mrs. Ervin:

- Asked if the headquarters building is adequate

Sheriff Conway:

- It's part of what they will be looking at overall – will include that structure

Mrs. Ervin:

- Are you looking at the rifle range

Sheriff Conway:

- For many years the use of a range has been rented from a Rod & Gun Club
- Have looked at if we are maximizing the amount of people we have at the range each time; we pay either a full or half day fee for it
- We are currently in our firearms and service phase, when completed, I will again look at if we have maximized the amount of people there for the days we are renting it
- The discussion should include other agencies in the county – the range is a standard for any agency; it could be a county-wide/city-wide operation

Mrs. Ervin:

- Of the 18 recruits – what is the make up; is there any diversity in that group.

Sheriff Conway:

- I interviewed all of the police recruits – do not have the breakdown in front of me of male/female/minority, but does know there are minorities, females and males in that class.

Mrs. Ervin:

- My understanding is that you are going to be looking further and farther to get a different configuration; I hope that is the case.

Undersheriff Cassalia:

- Part of the process of where we are going for modern law enforcement standards connects with the CALEA accreditation model
- Part of that is doing all we can do to insure that our sworn ranks of the organization reflect the community we serve
- One of the first things we did – took a look at where we stand now and what we need to do
- Will be tied into requirement we will have based on modern/best practices – a strong recruiting platform and analysis of that platform so we can meet that goal, represent the community in sworn ranks
- Will be ongoing – connected to a lot of pieces—recruitment and selection

Mr. Jordan:

- DA talked about the Tips 411 Program that he is looking to institute, assumes the DA has had conversation with your office about that program

Sheriff Conway:

- We were invited to the initial meeting

Mr. Jordan:

- Efficacy of the program would be dependent on prompt response – gave example of people calling in drug usage on the playground, but by the time someone gets out there, the people are long gone
- Do you anticipate any problems with trying to respond quickly enough

Sheriff Conway:

- No I don't – many agencies now have tips through a phone number or email; have been able to manage them; doesn't anticipate any problems with being able to participate to the level it designed for

Mr. Jordan:

- Is the pistol range in the court house tunnel different than the rifle range

Sheriff Conway:

- That is the City Police -- been there forever – doesn't know if it is operational because of environmental issues with ranges and lead
- A pistol range and rifle range are basically the same – the rifle range is a longer distance to its target

Mr. Jordan:

- Could that range be rehabbed – we have talked about joint efforts with other agencies

Sheriff Conway:

- Thinks it would be strictly for hand guns because it doesn't have the distance for a rifle
- If it were an easy fix, I'm sure it would have happened – with most indoor ranges the issue is lead; it gets into a lot of costs to remediate or redesign

Chairman Knapp:

- City is in the the same boat regarding renting some space; who do we rent from

Sheriff Conway:

- Elbridge Rod and Gun Club

Mrs. Rapp:

- Evidence facility and heliport – seems like we have the same conversation about this every year
- They are in terrible condition – something needs to be done
- Does the State Police helicopter not function any more

Sheriff Conway:

- State Police have moved their helicopter to Batavia

Mrs. Rapp:

- There was conversation about moving our helicopter to their space at the airport; has it been followed up on or did it not work out

Sheriff Conway:

- That is a private hanger – Landmark Aviation, Texas; we haven't spoken to them because we know there will be a cost

Mrs. Rapp:

- Seems it would be far less than building a new heliport someplace else

Sheriff Conway:

- I didn't say I was interested in building a new heliport; at the moment there are arrangements with the 174th. Over time, perhaps it might be the situation we wind up with indefinitely.

Mrs. Rapp:

- Evidence facility – we have talked about using the Sage Building at Hancock Field – a Cold War building, 3-ft thick walls, no windows; empty for 25 years, 100k sq. feet
- It seems it would be perfect for storing evidence or the rifle range; county is now managing that property

Sheriff Conway:

- I don't know if I would agree that it would be an ideal structure

- In this situation, cost is important, but what is going to be the best optimal structure for what we want to do with it rather than taking an available structure and trying to make it fit; I think this is what happened at Joy Road
- Joy Road – years ago someone said there is the basement of this old UPS facility where DOT is now, let's put property & evidence in there. It was never a good idea.
- Before my career ended previously with the Sheriff's, I was responsible for that unit.
- Whether it is the worker atmosphere or structure needed to secure drugs, weapons, etc. – it wasn't the appropriate place
- Going to be very cautious and hesitant to someone's request of trying to say "that building is available, so make it work."
- Trying to come up with a plan that would truly be for the ages, that is appropriate in all ways – whether for the worker or security of evidence
- It is important issues when it comes to evidence – now there are even environmental issues. Drugs give off an odor, especially marijuana; doesn't want to run into a meeting with OSHA down the road
- Had quickly dismissed the Sage Building, but is happy to listen to someone's recommendations on that, who has more knowledge and information than I do as far as its design, structure and capabilities

Mr. May:

- Grants budget – explain the increase on fines & forfeitures line

Ms. Fricano:

- Traditionally budget at \$200k/year; the Sheriff's office has received more
- Trying to true that up this year so that they can use all of the funds that they have actually received
- This year it is \$1M vs. \$200k; going forward we will more accurately budget what we think they will be receiving so that the budget and actual are closer

Mr. May:

- What would the expenditures entail on the grants side

Chairman McMahon:

- Asked for a definition of what makes up that line

Sheriff Conway:

- The forfeiture program is when we conduct investigations and recover proceeds, vehicles, buildings. There is a process federally and statewide that allows law enforcement to seize those assets and in some cases allow us to receive those proceeds.
- There are very strict guidelines on what those assets can be used for going forward.

Chairman McMahon asked for the balance in that account; Ms. Fricano said that she would look it up and report back on it.

Mr. May:

- What are the top programs on the grant side that the trueing up will fund

Ms. Fricano:

- It's up to the administration, following the guidelines of that program and things they will purchase with it
- In the past they have received an evidence van, which was outside of their general operating budget

Mr. May:

- Will the lion's share go to equipment

Ms. Fricano:

- Yes. I believe the asset forfeiture program is supposed to enhance the operation.

Mr. May:

- Regarding Mr. Jordan's comments with respect to the Justice Center – agrees it has been a frustrating, long process
- Disagrees a little bit – I saw your position statement as probably the most definitive thing we have seen with respect to direction; within the document I saw things that you definitely didn't want to do
- I was in the same meeting with the Sheriff when members of the judicial system were quite enlightened with costs associated with weekend incarceration, particularly when people are just waiting to be arraigned.

- It prompted us to have a meeting with Ann Rooney and some other folks to get the cards on the table and talk about why we haven't made progress and talk about individual goals. The biggest underlying reason was we were waiting to see who are new sheriff would be.
- At the very beginning of the process, the legislature earmarked a pot of money to evaluate and study where we want it to go. We never spent that money for the reason just mentioned – the indecision on where to go.
- I think you have a general idea of the direction you want to go; there is money appropriated to help us hone in on what that direction is. To answer one of your questions...*where do we go from here...* I know one thing...that we as a legislature had decided to commit some money to answer some of those questions.
- The money is appropriated for this process – probably need to revisit it because it is going to be a different process.

Chairman McMahon:

- Forfeiture item – refreshing to see that real dollars are being put into this. We know that we get money every year. For years it was never a transparent issue; it was a duck and dodge circus over here when we'd ask about it. The fact that this is budgeted, and we are being transparent, is fantastic.

Chairman McMahon:

- With previous administration there was an Operation Impact detail budgeted. I thought IMPACT was effective; out folks going into high crime, active areas. Either we are doing the tough work and SPD does the quality of life patrols through many outer ring city neighborhoods – the backbone of the city tax base - or it is vice versa.
- The idea was that we were giving a little more help to give a little more presence in some of the quality of life neighborhoods that don't see a lot of SPD presence.
- Is Project GIVE the new code name for IMPACT
- Request – when patrolling, i.e. Town of Onondaga, go a little further and not zigzag around the city line; when patrolling Salina, there are neighborhoods on the northside that would face the same types of things, when you get through patrolling Salina why don't you just go a little further
- Do our deputies have the ability to ticket in the city, i.e. if someone is parked in walk line – a violation in the city, just like an SPD deputy could ticket

Sheriff Conway:

- Ticketing in the city – assumes the example is a violation of a city ordinance; we have those police powers in the city, would have to know what the city ordinance is and whether there is a special ticket it is written on. We have police powers throughout the city as well as the county.
- Areas of the city that come between where we are traveling in our own post – the assessment of our post maps, which determines where cars are assigned to, is something he wants to look at and revisit, but has not gotten to it yet. It is important, and something that we look at. If we are going to be patrolling through parts of the city, that is one thing. Being dispatched to calls that are in that part of the city is something that would draw in a discussion with the SPD – it speaks to dispatching from the 911 Center.
- Driving through the city to get from one county post to another – it is more of a culture thing that we need to change the mindset of deputies. They come out of the academy with *this is your post and where you answer calls*, and we try to make sure they stay in their post unless there is a reason for them to come out of it. The assessment and evaluation of post areas is something that I will look at in 2016 if not sooner and come up with some answers to your questions.

Chief Ciciarelli:

- GIVE has basically replaced IMPACT. It started with Weed and Seed, went to IMPACT, and now it is GIVE
- We have a sergeant and two deputies assigned to the city working Tues-Sat; their deployment is based on high crime areas, analyzed by the Crime Analysis Center
- Work with CRT teams along with State Police – each unit is set up to basically patrol different sections at different times based on crime in that area.
- I was out this past Wed. night and we went to every area of the city at different times based on analysis done the previous week.

Mr. Holmquist:

- Recognize the great job that you and your team have done so far. You guys have the toughest jobs in county government, coming in with the litany of issues we have talked about today. There are emergencies of all flavors, and you have handled them very well.
- The tone has improved dramatically and the communication is outstanding. It can be seen at the Public Safety Committee meetings – I have been here over 10 years and we never had the Sheriff come to our meetings. Now it's a regular occurrence – the leadership team is there regularly and the communication alone has really helped set the tone.

Mr. Holmquist:

- Mental Health at Justice Center: I thought it was terribly unproductive and disingenuous for the county executive in her budget presentation to really characterize your position on this very inaccurately.
- We know what her position is – she stands alone and has for a while; as our Chairman says, we are very frustrated by that
- When you came out with the position statement, it was very helpful; it clarified especially on the heels of Co. executive's budget address.
- We respect you and your team, appreciate the collaboration and communication – it is helpful going forward.
- With the overtime issue, the contingency funds, and all you have had to deal with, you know we have been very frustrated over the past several years on all of this. Going forward, he has very high hopes that these really complicated, difficult issues are going to be addressed appropriately. I believe you know that you have our support, and will do everything you can on these issues.
- We held Public Safety Committee meeting at the heliport and it was deplorable then; 3 years later I'm sure it is worse. We held all of our Public Safety Committee meetings at public safety facilities except Jamesville. We have a good understanding as lay people with what you are up against.
- Congratulations on everything that you have accomplished and all that you are going to accomplish; looks forward to a great year next year with all of you.

Chairman Knapp:

- Overtime – what's the projection for year end

Ms. Fricano:

- Most current projection puts the entire Sheriff's office overtime over budget at around \$613k
- The overall projection for their entire budget puts them within budget

Chairman McMahon:

- What's the breakdown for overtime

Ms. Fricano:

- Custody project to be over by \$500k and police/civil project to be under budget by around \$100k

Chief Gonzalez:

- Custody overtime – Sheriff challenged all of us to look this year at the way things were done with a new eye. Some things he challenged us to do have come to fruition; it is trending down.
- We originally watched 1 officer on 4 inmates on Mental Health unit with full glass cells. Around the year 2000 a new chairman came into Albany and said we couldn't do that anymore and it had to be 1 on 2 again. We have asked repeatedly over the years if we could go back to the 1 on 4 and had been told "no".
- We asked again this year and they have allowed us going toe 1 officer on 4 inmates. That, 24/7, 3 shifts/day adds up to \$322k in one post of overtime
- Also doing an above and beyond thing. The Commission mandates that we have the classification of a constant observation and a frequent check. However, we are now looking at an intermediary step, through NCCHC. They looked at our mental health population and said that we could introduce the intermediary step – a safe cell. Looking at constructing safe cells, less suicidal options for an inmate. Inmates can be placed in high observation. The cell makes it safer for inmates – more humane, and don't have to an officer sitting outside of the cell thus running up overtime. It is a win-win on both sides.
- Looking at it now –rough estimates indicate piloting the idea sometime around January 1st.
- Looking at changing 15 cells to safe cells and meeting the definition of what a high observation is. If we do that, we expect a drop in constant observations.

Mr. Jordan:

- What makes a safe cell

Chief Gonzalez:

- Many things – toilet and sink are different, all edges are rounded off, bunk is off the wall and put on the floor; bars, desk, leavers are all modified to make it as impossible as could be for them to commit suicide; also it is more viewable

Mr. Kilmartin:

- Regarding issues critical to to your administration - new initiatives, processes, i.e. video arraignments, video observation of inmates, etc. – encourage you to work with the county executive's office and DA, who both have a strong relationship with the Governor's office
- Also with any statewide associations to try to advance memos, recommendations, or memorializing resolution that we could pass to try to advance cost saving initiatives or new technologies. It sounds like with some of these issues there could be a lot of traction with other sheriff's and probably other county executives and district attorneys
- DA has talked in the past about it being constructive to modify the process for arraignments and how things are administered in justice courts

Chairman Knapp:

- Asked for further clarification on the projections for overtime

Ms. Fricano:

- Overtime: Police side – under budget \$92,464; Custody over budget by \$705,584 – the total over budget \$613,120
- Overall budget - savings in other areas-salaries and contractual expense that are offsetting those overages
- Projection incorporates some of the savings they were talking about with some of the operational changes at Justice Center

Chairman Knapp:

- 103 line – small increase this year, up \$200k since 2014 – what is it used for

Ms. Fricano:

- The variance from 2015 to 2016 is 6 interns that the Sheriff has requested
- From 2014 it is the SPO's who provide security for the Civic Center and Probation

Mr. Morgan:

- In 2015 the then Sheriff requested an increase in the wage rate for the SPOs that provide security in Civic Center

Chairman Knapp:

- Supplies & materials – what is the increase

Ms. Fricano:

- Body cameras

Sheriff Conway:

- There are many vendors out there. At the moment they are expensive and large; there are grants being floated out there.
- Request was to be able to evaluate a couple of different models; this is technology that is only going to get better quickly and will become less expensive; hope to have funding down the road

Chairman Knapp:

- Questioned the increase in maintenance

Ms. Fricano:

- Attributed to 3 pieces: Cloud storage for the body cameras – \$43k; tile one pod in Justice Center- \$13k; Air One maintenance added it--historically it had not been in that line - \$55k

Chairman Knapp:

- Revenue – increase in sales property – line 056

Ms. Fricano:

- Some insurance claims are trending up
- As the 3 year automotive plan is implemented, those cars go to auction and revenue is received

Chairman McMahan:

- Furn, furniture, equip – up drastically

Ms. Fricano:

- A license plate reader, special unit radios, package of camera and audio equipment for Justice Center, air conditioner for one of the server rooms at Justice Center

Chairman McMahan:

- Trends are seen in every other department where energy prices are doing down

Ms. Fricano:

- It is trending down, the increases in that line are greater than the variances – seeing swings in both directions

Chairman McMahan:

- Provision for capital projects, new for 2015 – what's the plan for 2016

Mr. Morgan:

- The required payment to the loan that the county spun up for them to buy vehicles; a 4-year payment

Chairman Knapp:

- My compliments on that – it was very innovative

Chairman Knapp:

- What makes up other misc. revenues, line 057:

Ms. Fricano:

- Proceeds from seized and unclaimed property, money received from Social Security administration for finding fraudulent disability claims by inmates, inmates that fail to claim commissary checks upon release

Chairman Knapp:

- Overall increase in grant budget; what new grants are there

Ms. Fricano:

- There is not a new grant – just truing up the forfeited assets grant
- Traditionally \$200k had been budgeted every year, but they had been receiving more
- This year \$1 million was budgeted

Chairman Knapp:

- 2014 used over \$800k to shore up grant budget

Chairman McMahan:

- Was that Air one

Ms. Fricano:

- An entry was made at year end for that, but not \$800.

Mr. Morgan:

- Will get back to you on it

Chairman Knapp:

- It's great that we will have an Air One budget – we need to have our handle on this
- I'm a big supporter of Air One – it is very popular in my district

Chairman Knapp:

- What's the status with other county agreement with Air One

Ms. Fricano:

- \$10k from Oswego; \$5k from Cayuga

Chairman Knapp:

- Are any grants still in place for bullet proof vests

Ms. Fricano:

- Took advantage of grants last year, to her knowledge that money is not available this year

Sheriff Conway:

- It's a federal program; it usually opens up each year; there's a window when you can apply

Ms. Fricano:

- We applied for BPV money and were turned down this year
- The 50% reimbursement was a separate grant from Attorney General; it was separate from BPV

Chairman Knapp:

- Grants budget – what positions make up the salaries and overtime lines

Ms. Fricano:

- Overtime is in a variety of different grants that are reimbursed
- Project LifeSaver is a grants positions; transfer of salaries for GIVE

Mr. Morgan:

- Funds various positions in overtime, doesn't know how many full time positions it funds

Chairman Knapp:

- Where are we on pistol permits; what is the wait time

Chief Andrews:

- About a month
- Implemented the kiosk in the lobby; phase 3 in about 3 months – will have some ability to change some items on pistol permits over the internet

Chairman Knapp:

- Is the software that we bought now operating the kiosk

Chief Andrews:

- Yes

Chairman Knapp:

- Compliments to you on the 174th – really thinking outside of the box
- What has been the impact of the State Police's helicopter leaving and flying out of Batavia

Sheriff Andrews:

- State Police has not been over here with that ship at all; understands that it could be in emergency circumstances
- They primarily flew during the day, during the week and we have primarily flown in the afternoon and into the evening
- Have not really seen any effect from it; we don't have a crew during the day – our crews are in the evening

Chairman Knapp:

- In the past, we have received a \$25k grant from DEA, do we still receive that for doing checks while we are in the air

Sheriff Conway:

- Met with the DEA advisory agent this week, this was discussed – they help facilitate that grant
- We still attend the Air One Foundation meetings and they have, at least in principle, agreed to help us in any way possible financially

Chairman Knapp:

- What's the term on the health services contract
- Was this one a little better experience than the last

Chief Gonzalez:

- It goes through the end of 2016 – it's a 3 year contract
- With any private company, it's an educational experience
- We have held their feet to the fire with contractual language with thanks to Karen Bucker, contract compliance monitor and in working with Ms. Fricano, we figured out the penalties that are owed to Onondaga County based on them not meeting certain mandates in the contract
- That being said, they have pushed strongly towards keeping staffing up – that has improved relatively well in the last few months; they have had job fairs hiring doctors down to nurses
- It's been pretty good, but as with any company there is turnover that we have to struggle with

- We are not negotiating. If there is contract deficiencies, we hold that money back and don't pay them and then recoup that money
- It is going in the right direction and better than the last company, but still continue to work with them to make it better

Chairman Knapp:

- Asked about the food service contract

Chief Gonzalez:

- Same as Jamesville; Aramark
- Out to bid this year; will start a new contract on 1/1; 3 year contract with optional 2-year extensions

Chairman Knapp:

- How many inmates were recently boarded out

Chief Gonzalez:

- 15 females of Commissioner Cowin's inmates were boarded out, but we pay for them
- We are the genesis of it; it is more important to send sentenced inmates out because they don't have to travel back and forth for court
- Around the state and nation inmate population is decreasing; today's inmate population is the same or lower than it was last year, it's just that the female population is a problem right now

Chairman Knapp:

- Defibulator grant – what's the plan on rolling that out

Chief Conway:

- Can't take credit for it; it was initiated before I came in
- It's 95 AEDs – all existing ones will be replaced at once, which makes it compatible, which is important
- They are in the Justice Center, patrol cars, and facilities
- Not in all cars - have enough in cars so that they can go out with each deputy
- They aren't assigned to a car – not designed to stay in a car

Chairman Knapp:

- Heroin epidemic – is Narcan carried in the cars

Sheriff Conway:

- We do carry it; have been able to use it on many occasions – people who are overdosing
- A patrol sergeant advised him that it was used 4 times on the same individual

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Maturo

DEBORAH L. MATURO, Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: *Ways & Means Review of Public Safety Comm. Depts*

DATE: *9/24/15*

NAME	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
PLEASE PRINT	
<i>Tina Sullo</i>	<i>CORRECTION</i>
<i>RANDY BLUME</i>	<i>CORRECTIONS</i>

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: *Ways & Means Review of Public Safety Comm. Depts*

DATE: *9/24/15*

NAME	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
PLEASE PRINT	
<i>Dawn Nolan</i>	<i>Personnel</i>
<i>Patrice Gile</i>	<i>DMB</i>
<i>Beth Montas</i>	<i>Personnel</i>