

The Legislature of Rockland County



JAY HOOD, JR.
Majority Leader
Legislator – District 3

Chair, Public Safety Committee

Members Present:

Leg. J. Hood, Jr. Chair
Leg. T. Earl, Vice Chair
Leg. Chair H. Cornell
Leg. C. Carey
Leg. E. Day
Leg. A. Wolfe

Members Absent:

Leg. A. Paul

Others Present:

E. Yeger, Esq.
Leg. D. Jobson
A. Aldrich
R. Levine
Sheriff Falco
Media
B. Atkins
Leg. P. Soskin
Leg. Wieder
K. Sincerbox
M. Barbera

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013
5:00 PM

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF MINUTES, MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2012

MOTION TO ADOPT:
DAY/WOLFE

UNAN

Chair Hood, Jr. welcomed Legislative Chairwoman Harriet Cornell as a new member to the Committee.

Mr. Arthur Aldrich, Founder, Editor & Publisher of Our Town, thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak to them regarding the resolution condemning the publication of the online map and demanding its removal.

Mr. Aldrich stated the Committee's attempt to demand that the Journal News remove the gun permit information from the Lohud website not only violates the First Amendment provision but also presents a dangerous attempt to exercise control over what media can and cannot publish. This is not only improper but unconstitutional and can set a precedent for similar demands on other stories that government may find disturbing, inconvenient or embarrassing.

Mr. Aldrich also stated that editorial decisions of any publication should shine a light on truth and fact and be guided by an ethic that advances public discourse.

1. REF. #8455 - **INSTITUTING THE ROCKLAND COUNTY FIREARMS CABLE LOCK SAFETY PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FREE FIREARMS CABLE LOCKS TO COUNTY RESIDENTS (HON. ILAN S. SCHOENBERGER, FRANK SPARACO, JAY HOOD, JR. LEGISLATURE)**
RED DOT VERSION

Sheriff Falco explained the Sheriff's office currently have available a quantity of firearms cable locks (a device that prevents live ammunition from loading into a firearm by blocking the chamber). They are to be provided free to residents of Rockland County on a first-come-first-serve basis).

Chairwoman Cornell questioned what will happen when the locks are used up?

Legislative Counsel Elana Yeger stated there were no funding clauses included and the locks would be given out until the stock was gone.

Leg. Day said there was a Federal Program entitled "Project ChildSafe" which supplies law enforcement with free cable lock safety kits. Only law enforcement agencies are eligible to receive these kits. Leg. Day agreed to send the information to Sheriff Falco who in return would pass this information on to the Police Chiefs.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
EARL/HOOD, JR., CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

2. REF. #7424 - **URGING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO INTRODUCE AND PASS BILLS AMENDING PENAL LAW SECTION 400 IN RELATION TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN AN APPLICATION FOR A PISTOL LICENSE (HONS. FRANK P. SPARACO, ILAN S. SCHOENBERGER, ARON WIEDER, CHRISTOPHER CAREY, TONEY EARL, JAY HOOD, JR., LEGISLATURE)**

Legislative Counsel Elana Yeger explained the proposed change would prohibit public disclosure of names and addresses except to police and prosecutors conducting active investigations.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
DAY/CAREY**

UNAN

ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. CORNELL, WOLFE, DAY, JOBSON, SOSKIN

3. REF. #7424 - **RED DOT VERSION** CONDEMNING THE JOURNAL NEWS FOR EXERCISING POOR JUDGMENT IN ITS DECISION TO CREATE AN INTERACTIVE WEBSITE MAKING THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL LAWFUL PISTOL PERMIT HOLDERS IN IN ROCKLAND AND WESTCHESTER COUNTIES READILY AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND DEMANDING THE REMOVAL OF THE WEBSITE
(HONS. FRANK P. SPARACO, ILAN S. SCHOENBERGER, JAY HOOD, JR. ARON WIEDER, TONEY EARL, CHRISTOPHER CAREY, LEGISLATURE)

The Committee members agreed the “gun map” created a public safety issue. Several of the Legislators noted inaccuracies in the map put people at risk. Leg. Wieder said people who are not proponents of guns were also placed in jeopardy.

Leg. Day stated it made no sense to identify locations where there are guns; nothing good can come from this. This could also expose people to potential burglaries and more illegal firearms on the street.

Chairwoman Cornell said she disagreed with the use of “condemning” in the resolution and that she would write her own letter of objection to the The Journal News.

Chair Hood, Jr. stated he was “dumbfounded” that the information has not been removed and that strong language needed to be used.

Leg. Wolfe disagreed with Mr. Aldrich and said the resolution did not abridge anyone’s rights; it is the Committee’s way of exercising its freedom of speech.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
WOLFE/HOOD, JR., EARL, DAY, CAREY**

5 AYES/1 NAY

**5 AYES: HOOD, JR., EARL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE
1 NAY: CORNELL**

ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

4. REF. #5327 - APPROVING AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION TO AGREEMENT IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 WITH STEVEN HEUBECK IN THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$8,759, FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$151,800 FOR IN-SERVICE AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING COORDINATOR AT THE ROCKLAND COUNTY POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY UNDER RFP-RC-2010-23 FOR THE PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2012 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXECUTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT) (\$151,800)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
CAREY/DAY**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, JR., EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

5. REF. #5327 - APPROPRIATION OF FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUNDS REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE PIERMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT SO THAT THEY CAN PURCHASE A NEW POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE VAN (OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF) (\$25,000)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
CORNELL/DAY**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, JR., EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

6. REF. #9181 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,400 (NCTD) FROM THE NYS GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR THE "BUCKLE UP NEW YORK!" CAMPAIGN PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2012 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT) (\$1,400)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
EARL/CAREY**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, JR., EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

7. REF. #9181 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,200 (NCTD) FROM THE NYS GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP) THAT WILL BE USED TO HELP COVER OVERTIME COSTS RELATED TO AGGRESSIVE DRIVING AND SPEEDING FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2012 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT) (\$4,200)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
WOLFE/CAREY**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, JR., EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

8. REF. #4249 - ACCEPTANCE OF A 2012 FEDERAL BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP (BVP) PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,261 (NCTD) WITH A NEW YORK STATE MATCH OF \$6,261 (NCTD) MAKING TOTAL THAT NEEDS TO BE APPROPRIATED \$12,522 (NCTD), FOR THE PURCHASE OF BULLET-RESISTANT BODY ARMOR THROUGH THE PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 31, 2014 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT) (\$12,522)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
DAY/EARL & CAREY**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, JR., EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

9. REF. #6704 - APPROPRIATION OF FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUNDS REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE SHERIFF'S R.E.A.C.T. UNIT (OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY) (\$20,000)
(THOMAS ZUGIBE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
DAY/EARL & CAREY**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 1/8/13**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, JR., EARL, CORNELL, CAREY, DAY, WOLFE, JOBSON, SOSKIN

10. REF. #6704 - DISCUSSION ITEM: INFORMATION AND ISSUES REGARDING THE SALE OF GUNS
(HONS. ANEY PAUL, CHAIR HARRIET CORNELL, LEGISLATURE)

Chairwoman Cornell requested that this discussion be taken up at a future meeting since Leg. Paul was not available.

***WILL BE PUT ON A FUTURE MEETING WHEN LEG. PAUL WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 5:55 PM
DAY/CAREY**

UNAN

"The Rockland County Legislature is committed to full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To that end, the Legislature is committed to creating an accessible environment for all. To request accommodations that you may require, please call Damaris Alvarez at 845-638-5248 (845-708-7899 for TTY/TDD). Please request these accommodations three (3) days in advance so that we can seek to meet your needs."

PS010813.MIN
SED