

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
GENESEE COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**Batavia, New York**

**Wednesday, May 29, 2019**

Present: Legislators Bausch, Stein, Clattenburg, Deleo, Torrey, Maha, Dibble, Hilchey, Young. Also present County Manager Jay Gsell, Asst. County Manager Matt Landers, County Attorney Kevin Earl, Sheriff William Sheron, Undersheriff Brad Mazur, Jail Superintendent Bill Zipfel, Confidential Secretary Vicky Muckle, Legislature Clerk Pamela LaGrou, The Batavian reporter Mike Pettinella.

Chairman Bausch called the meeting to order Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 5:20 PM at the Old County Courthouse Conference Room, Batavia, New York.

**Jail Project-Policy Discussion with Legislature**

Jail Project Co-Chairs Matt Landers and William Sheron reviewed and discussed the following agenda items:

1. Update on where we are with the project
  - a. Architect under contract – SMRT
  - b. Construction Manager contract awarded – Pike Company
  - c. Programming phase complete, moving to schematic design phase
  - d. Site testing to commence shortly
  - e. Verbal informal agreement with adjoining land owner for acquisition of additional 2.81 acres of land
  - f. Public hearing review
2. Discussion on the appropriate size of the jail
  - a. Jail committee is unanimous in recommending 200 bed facility
  - b. SMRT/CRS bed study originally had 184 beds by 2042, 18 months of new jail data has their estimates rising to 214 beds. Consensus was to limit the impact of last 18 months of data and meet in the middle at 200 beds
  - c. Bail impact reform discussion
    - i. Initial meeting with local criminal justice community (DA's Office, PD, Judge Zambito, Genesee Justice, Sheriff, Jail, Probation, CRS/SMRT) indicated everyone agreed that there would be an initial jail reduction, but large question marks on long term impacts of bail reform led the group to agree that there wasn't enough data to modify estimates from bed needs study.
    - ii. Legislature needs to decide on whether to accept jail committee recommendation or provide direction elsewhere
  - d. Recommendation is to construct 5 separate pods for the 200 beds
3. Discussion on moving Genesee Justice out to the new jail
  - a. Jail committee discussed moving part or all of Genesee Justice to new jail site
  - b. The Sheriff and Genesee Justice Coordinator are supportive of the full move
4. Discussion about having to hire 3 to 4 new Corrections Officer for 2020 budget for the

Jail Transition Team

- a. Jail Transition Team is recommended by both the COC and SMRT
  - b. Jail Transition Team would be dedicated to planning for transition into new jail
  - c. New staff would be retained as staff in new jail
5. Joint court facility with Town of Batavia discussion
- a. This was discussed relatively briefly by the jail committee
  - b. Due to the footprint needed by the jail at the current proposed site, the committee felt the focus should be on the jail
    - i. If the legislature wants to further pursue this concept we can certainly do that

**Jail Committee:**

Matt Landers – Co-Chair

William Sheron – Co-Chair

Bob Bausch, Legislator

Shelley Stein, Legislator

Gary Maha, Legislator

William Zipfel, Jail Superintendent

Brad Mazur, Undersheriff

Jay Gsell, County Manager

Laura Wadhams, Asst Co Engineer

Stephen Zimmer, IT Director

Felipe Oltramari, Planning Director

Kevin Andrews, Deputy Treasurer

**Contributing Members:**

Vicky Muckle, Co Mgrs Office

Cathy Uhly, Genesee Justice Director

Tim Michalak, Probation Director

Eve Hens, Central Services Director

Kevin Earl, County Attorney

At 6:25 PM the meeting adjourned upon motion of Legislator Torrey seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.