

**Budget and Capital Committee
June 17, 2008
5 p.m.
Courthouse Conference Room**

APPROVED

Present: M. Hattery, P. Mackesey, J. Dennis, K. Herrera
Excused: N. Shinagawa
Staff: S. Whicher, P. Younger, County Administration; D. Bradac, Workforce Development; P. Buechel, Department of Probation and Community Justice

Call to Order

Mr. Hattery called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO. – APPROPRIATION FROM CONTINGENT FUND AND
INCREASE IN HOURS FOR TRANSITION WORKFORCE
SPECIALIST POSITION – DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION
AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE**

MOVED by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Ms. Makesey.

Ms. Bradac explained this is a full-time position that has existed for five years and has been split between the Department of Probation and Community Justice, the Jail, and the Lansing Central School District. A year ago Title II funding was cut significantly and the Lansing School District contacted the County and said they couldn't sustain the program and would be looking for alternative funding. She explained that because the Jail is physically located in the Town of Lansing, the Lansing School District is required to provide GED instruction in the Jail to individuals under 18 years of age. As more inmates have been boarded out over the years, however, the number of individuals receiving that instruction has declined. It was also stated that this program has gone way beyond the GED program with the Title II monies. Ms. Bradac also stated this resolution is to approve funding for one-half of the position as the other half is funded by the Department of Probation and Community Justice.

Ms. Buechel explained this employee works in both the Jail and at the Day Reporting Center in assisting individuals being released from the Jail with job search and getting back into the workforce. This employee helps former inmates with the development of job interview skills and resume development. There is only one employee in Tompkins County performing these tasks.

Ms. Herrera said it is her understanding that a lot of the re-entry issues have to do with social services and asked if there could be oversight or funding from DSS on this. Ms. Bradac said DSS has been an active participant and at the table but they have not been able to financially contribute to this.

Mr. Hattery noted that the Department of Probation and Community Justice is able to receive approximately 19% State reimbursement for this position. A question was raised as to why Mr. Stevenson, Chair of the Public Safety Committee voted against this; Mr. Hattery said he believes the no vote was related to the seriousness of the budget situation.

At the request of Ms. Herrera, the final RESOLVED was added and agreed to by all present. A voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes – 4, Noes – 0, Excused – 1 (Shinagawa). MOTION CARRIED.

WHEREAS, funding that was previously available through Workforce New York and the Lansing Central School District has been discontinued and efforts to obtain other funding have failed, and

WHEREAS, the position of Transition Workforce Specialist is critical to the ongoing work at the Day Reporting Center, especially with the extra effort in the Re-Entry programming, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety and Budget and Capital Committees, That fifty percent of the Transition Workforce Specialist position previously funded by Workforce New York and the Lansing Central School District for twenty hours of work be moved to the Department of Probation and Community Justice effective immediately,

RESOLVED, further, That the Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to make the following budget appropriation for 2008:

FROM:	A1990.54400	Contingent Fund	\$32,691
TO:	A3141.51000783	Transition Workforce Specialist	\$23,140
	A3141.58800	Fringes	8,793
	A3141.54414	Local Mileage	758

RESOLVED, further, that this funding is an appropriation fro 2008 and is not to be assumed as funding for 2009.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Pottorff, TC Legislature Office