ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

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Report for May 2025 Municipal Meetings

Towns of Vernon and Verona, Villages of Oneida Castle and Vernon, City of Sherrill

April 9, 2025 -- Board of Legislators highlights: -- Resolutions

Recognition
The men's basketball team at Mohawk Valley Community College was saluted for capturing the national NJCAA Division III championship. The men ended their memorable season with a record of 29 wins and one loss.

Speakers
Luis Roman, president of Oneida County Sheriff's Department Employees Local 1249, praised Oneida County, especially the County Executive, for successfully challenging the legality of the Governor's executive order that prohibited local governments, including counties, from hiring former employees of the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision who were separated from their state jobs as result of the recent state prison strike. The county obtained a temporary restraining order that put the executive order on hold in Oneida County. Subsequently, the executive order expired April 9, making state correction officers eligible to be hired for local jobs anywhere in the state. Oneida County has already hired five former state COs to work at the county jail and may add as many as 40 more of them to the jail's staff. "It was a good day in jail," said Roman. Later in the meeting, Legislators approved an agreement with Local 1249 that outlined specific recruitment incentives, including the accrual of vacation time, aimed at attracting experienced correction officers who are currently or were formerly employed by the state. There also are adjustments in hiring step placement based on years of experience regardless of employment status. The incentives expire May 31.

Resolutions
Smoothing the way for development at the airport
Approved a negative environmental impact declaration for the Airport Business Park development project at the county airport, rezoning of the adjoining Mohawk Glen Golf Course and creation of an Upland sandpiper mitigation site. C & S Engineers prepared a Full Assessment Form for the project.

Lending county IT expertise to municipalities
Approved a template agreement with the city of Sherrill for IT services. In 2019, as part of the county's shared services initiative, the county department began providing information technology professional services to municipalities in the county. The first of these agreements, with the City of Sherrill, will soon expire after five successful years.
The new agreement with Sherrill is the format for others that follow for other municipalities.

County bridge project in Verona
Approved a Federal Aid Local Project Agreement that is part of the BridgeNY Program and requires approval to identify the state funding shares for the scoping, right-of- way incidentals, preliminary design and detailed design phases for the project. The agreement covers a county-owned structure on Greenway Road over Stoney Creek in Verona. The estimated total cost is $517,000, with federal/state aid of $491,000 and a county share of $25,900. This BridgeNY Project is 95 percent federally funded with a 5 percent local match. Because the project involves a county road, the county will be responsible for the local match and any cost beyond federal and state aid.

Safer streets and roads
Accepted the Safety Action Plan for Oneida and Herkimer counties that was prepared thanks to a federal Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All grant.
The document outlines strategies to prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries focused on all users. It contains a list of implementable strategies and projects, proven safety countermeasures, policy recommendations and high-impact improvements.

Upcoming events
April 22: Economic development announcement at Griffiss Airport. Invitations will be sent to legislators.

April 28: EDGE briefing at 5 p.m. in the Board Chamber.

May 12: MVCC briefing at the school. Details to follow.