TIMOTHY B. HOWARD
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

September 9, 2013

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

RE: Erie County Sheriff's Office – K9 Transfer

Honorable Members:

Attached please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum from the Erie County Sheriff's Office requesting authorization to transfer ownership of Roki, a drug detection canine assigned to the Erie County Holding Center, to Mr. Marcus Hampton, a certified dog trainer. Roki was purchased with Seized Asset Funds in 2012 but unfortunately has exhibited unacceptable behavior, against the standards we hold for our passive Jail Management Division canines rendering him incapable of working in the correctional environment.

I kindly request the Erie County Legislature consider and approve the resolution at its earliest possible session. If your Honorable Body requires any further information, kindly contact the Sheriff's Office and we will be happy to accommodate your request.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY B. HOWARD
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

Attachments

TEN DELAWARE AVENUE, BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202-3999
(716) 858-7608 FAX: (716) 858-7680 WEBSITE: http://www.erie.gov/sheriff

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RE: Erie County Sheriff's Office - K9 Transfer

WHEREAS, Roki was purchased in the year 2012 with seized asset funds and was trained in drug detection to work in the Erie County Holding Center; and

WHEREAS, Roki has exhibited unacceptable behavior therefore posing a possible risk to the employees of the Erie County Sheriff's Office and the visitors and inmates at the Erie County Holding Center; and

WHEREAS, Marcus Hampton has agreed to sign an agreement to assume full responsibility for said dog and to hold the County of Erie/Erie County Sheriff's Office harmless against any and all liability; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office conferred with the Director of Purchase and the County Attorney to determine that by Legislative Resolution the transfer of ownership could occur.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Office of the Sheriff is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Mr. Marcus Hampton to transfer the ownership of Roki. Mr. Marcus Hampton shall assume full responsibility for the dog under such agreement and shall further hold the County of Erie and Erie County Sheriff's Office harmless against any and all liability; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that certified copies be forwarded to the Erie County Comptroller, the Director of Purchase, the County Attorney and the Office of the Sheriff for implementation.

ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM

RE: Erie County Sheriff's Office - K9 Transfer

I. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The attached resolution requests authorization to transfer ownership of Roki to Mr. Marcus Hampton, a certified dog trainer and owner of Hampton's K-9 located at 58 Hempstead Avenue in Buffalo, New York.

II. FISCAL IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSAL

No fiscal effect on County Funds. The Sheriff's Office Seized Asset Account was used to fund the K-9 purchase.

III. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

Roki has exhibited unacceptable behavior therefore making it impossible for him to work in the correctional environment. The potential risk to employees, visitors and inmates at the Erie County Holding Center mandated that Roki be taken out of active service. Mr. Hampton, a certified dog trainer has offered to accept responsibility of Roki and provide the needed training to modify his behavior.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The County would be obligated to pay for the bi-weekly employee stipend for maintaining Roki or kenneling costs until an alternative transfer of ownership can be accomplished.

V. STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF MEASURE

Certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the Erie County Comptroller, the Director of Purchase, the County Attorney and the Office of the Sheriff for implementation.