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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 2, 2015

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

Re: Saia Communications, Inc. Tower Lease Agreement

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find an accompanying memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Emergency Services requesting authorization to enter into agreements with Saia Communications, Inc. to lease space on their two towers. One is located on Holland Glenwood Road in Colden, NY named Saia Colden Tower. The other is located on Peck Hill Road in Dayton, NY named Saia Perrysburg Tower. The agreements would be good for five (5) years.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Dan Neaverth Jr. at the Department of Emergency Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/mc
Enclosure

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Emergency Services
Re: Saia Communications, Inc. Tower Lease Agreement
Date: June 2, 2015

SUMMARY

The Department of Environment and Planning is seeking authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement with Saia Communications, Inc. to lease space on two of their towers. One is located on Holland Glenwood Road in Colden, NY, named Saia Colden Tower. The other is located on Peck Hill Road in Dayton, NY, named Saia Perrysburg Tower. The tower rental fees will be \$14,400 annually, per tower, payable in four (4) equal quarterly installments of \$3,600 on the first day of each quarter. These tower sites will assist with the performance of the 400 MHz Interoperable Communications System.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact on the county operating budget. The funds to cover this agreement will be coming out of the 100% reimbursable State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant. The funds in the grant, in account 516030, are already approved by the state to be utilized for this project.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Emergency Services needs space on the Colden and Perrysburg towers in order to provide the required critical radio coverage for that region of the county.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Emergency Services has built the 400 MHz interoperable communications system to provide public safety agencies with critical radio communications over the past several years. These tower sites are the key to enhancing coverage in that region of the county.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Without this Legislation the department will not be able to lease the space on these towers and therefore will have gaps in coverage on the 400 MHz Interoperable Communication System.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County Executive will sign the agreements, the Department of Emergency Services will be able to utilize the tower for the 400 MHz Interoperable Communications System and the public safety agencies within that section of the county will have successful interoperable communications.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

RE: Saia Communications Inc. Tower
Lease Agreement

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security, through the NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services has agreed to provide funding in the SHSP grants to continue the implementation of programs to enhance the ability of Erie County to manage emergency and disaster situations; and

WHEREAS, authorization is required from the Erie County Legislature for the County Executive to enter into an agreement for five years with Saia Communications Inc. for space on their Colden and Perrysburg towers in the amount of \$14,400 annually, per tower; and

WHEREAS, this contract will auto renew every five years for a total of up to 20 years or may be terminated sooner by either party as per the conditions of the lease agreement; and

WHEREAS, the contract will be managed by the Erie County Department of Emergency Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the County Executive to enter into an agreement beginning July 1, 2015 with Saia Communications, Inc. for the purposes of providing tower space for 400 MHz Interoperable Communications System in the amount of \$14,400 annually, per tower; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the funds to cover this agreement are already approved by the state to be utilized for this project in the 100% reimbursable State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant, account 516030, fund 281, and funds center 1670030; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Personnel, the Department of Emergency Services c/o Melissa Calhoun, the County Comptroller, and the County Attorney.