



First Sergeant Meyer stated he does not know how many televisions will be replaced.

Legislator LoBue questioned if that information could be forwarded prior to the Full Legislative Meeting.

Chairman Castellano stated this Budgetary Amendment requires the signature of the Chair of the Audit Committee; therefore it will not go to the Full Legislative Meeting.

First Sergeant Meyer stated there are about 20 total televisions, however not all will be replaced. He stated only the televisions that are no longer serviceable will be replaced.

Chairman Castellano restated that this money must be utilized for the benefit of the inmates.

Legislator LoBue stated there must be a list of how many televisions, microwaves, and radios will be purchased.

First Sergeant Meyer stated he is sure a specific number of each was accounted for.

Legislator LoBue stated she would like to see the breakdown.

Legislator Sullivan questioned the size of the televisions.

First Sergeant Meyer stated they are 19 inches. He stated these items are used constantly, much different than how the same items are used in a residence.

Legislator LoBue stated she is not questioning the use of the items, but would like to see the accounting.

Chairman Castellano stated the money must be utilized for the benefit of the inmates.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 17A052; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**c. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A055/ Youth Bureau/ Notification by NYS Office of Children & Family Services of Increased Funding Allocations**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**d. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A057/ Probation/ Donation Received for Drug Treatment Court Program**

Legislator Jonke stated this is a generous donation made by the Carmel Rotary.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**e. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A058/ Sheriff's Dept./ Donation Received to Purchase Canine Patrol Vehicle**

Chairman Castellano stated a very generous donation was received from Mr. Joseph Stilwell in the amount of \$40,000 which will go towards the purchase of a canine patrol vehicle.

Legislator Sullivan stated the donation was very generous of Mr. Stilwell.

Legislator Nacerino stated Mr. Stilwell is a resident of Patterson and this is his second donation made to the Sheriff's Department. She stated his generosity is second to none.

Legislator LoBue stated she would like to send Mr. Stilwell a thank you letter.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**f. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A059/ Finance/ Vacancy Control Factor/ May-August 2017**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**g. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A060/ Probation Dept./ Grant Award/ Senator Terrence Murphy/ Putnam County Drug Court**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**h. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A062/ Sheriff's Dept./ Purchase Vehicle for Narcotics Enforcement Unit utilizing State Seized Asset Funds**

Legislator Jonke questioned if this purchase was being made through a State bid.

First Sergeant Meyer stated yes.

Chairman Castellano questioned if this would be an undercover vehicle.

First Sergeant Meyer stated yes, this funding was not included in the 2018 budget because they want to utilize the seized asset budget this year.

Legislator LoBue questioned if this seized asset fund is the same one that the District Attorney manages.

Commissioner Carlin stated no, each law enforcement jurisdiction has its own fund.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**i. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A063/ Dept. of Social Services/ Additional Grant Funding/ NYS Office of Victim Services**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**j. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 17A064/ Sheriff's Dept./ Emergency Response Team (ERT) Training**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #6 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T223/ Sheriff's Dept./ Overtime for CFR Training**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #7 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T224/ Sheriff's Dept./ Overtime due to Vacancies**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #8 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T228/ Real Property/ Temporary**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #9 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T246/ Sheriff's Dept./ Overtime for CFR Training**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

(Further questions were raised on this item under the discussion for item #10 below.)

## **Item #10 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T249/ Sheriff's Dept./ Overtime**

Legislator Nacerino stated she would like these fund transfers to be defined more clearly. She stated there are many fund transfers citing the same purpose without specific indication of what they are for.

First Sergeant Meyer stated CFR (Certified First Responder) training is not a vacancy issue, but rather a training issue. He stated it is an extensive program that is required by contract. He stated the training is very expensive and does not necessarily apply to what the Sheriff's Department does. He stated it does not have anything to do with the amount of personnel or vacancies.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if each employee takes the CFR training outside of their normal shift hours.

First Sergeant Meyer stated some classes are given during the day and some given in the evening; therefore it depends on when someone's shift or days off occur.

Legislator Sullivan questioned how many total hours the training is.

First Sergeant Meyer stated the training is 57 hours.

Legislator Jonke questioned how often the training is required.

First Sergeant Meyer stated it is required every three (3) years.

Legislator Jonke requested clarification that if an employee is on the clock during the day and a class is being held, they attend the class.

First Sergeant Meyer stated they will attend the class, however for example if that employee is supposed to be on road patrol, overtime would be required for another deputy to fill the road patrol need.

Legislator LoBue stated the training classes should be scheduled to accommodate the needs of the Sheriff's Department while avoiding the use of overtime.

First Sergeant Meyer stated there is no way to schedule the training without incurring overtime. He stated for example, the deputies on road patrol work four (4) days on and two (2) days off and rotate days and evenings.

Legislator LoBue questioned if there is a test and how many classes the training is divided into.

First Sergeant Meyer stated yes, there is a test. He stated the training classes are three (3) hours each.

Legislator LoBue questioned how many people fail the test and are required to retake the course.

First Sergeant Meyer stated he is not aware of anyone who has failed. He stated there is a State test at the end of the training that is made up of a practical portion and written portion. He stated this particular training does not fit with the Sheriff's Department and what a police officer does. He stated originally, 20 years ago, the training did fit into the duties of the Sheriff's Department but it no longer does.

Legislator LoBue stated concessions were made in exchange for this requirement.

First Sergeant Meyer stated if the CFR training requirement was removed, the County would save money. He stated he has worked for the Sheriff's Department for 23 years and served as the PBA President for a number of years. He stated when the current contract was negotiated; the 20 year retirement and CFR requirement were agreed upon. He stated that was back in 1997 and the CFR program has changed so much that it no longer applies. He stated the CFR has progressed over the years and has basically become EMT (emergency medical technician). He stated the 57 hour course is spent learning things that are not put into use on the road such as taking blood pressure and questioning about medications. He stated these are things the ambulance takes care of. He stated Sheriff's Deputies stop bleeding and administer CPR, which are learned in trainings that can be done in one (1) day.

Legislator LoBue questioned if oxygen is still carried in the Sheriff's Department vehicles.

First Sergeant Meyer stated absolutely.

Legislator Sullivan questioned how many hours the training was in 1997.

First Sergeant Meyer stated he believes the CFR training was 24 hours in 1997. He stated he participated in the first trainings and the CFR training has evolved into EMT and the EMT training has evolved even further. He stated the CFR training does not work for the Sheriff's Department and does not fit with what they do.

Legislator Jonke stated this is a topic that should be discussed in more depth at a Protective Services Committee Meeting.

Legislator Nacerino stated this is also part of the contract. She stated it is her understanding that if an individual is not CFR certified that they cannot administer oxygen.

First Sergeant Meyer stated that is not correct; oxygen can still be administered. He stated they would like to have certification in CPR, AED, and first aid. He stated these three (3) certifications can be recertified in one (1) day. He stated everything else that is done is outside the scope of their job.

Legislator Nacerino clarified that a CFR is similar but different than an EMT.

First Sergeant Meyer stated yes, a CFR today is what an EMT was 20 years ago.

Legislator Sullivan requested clarification of the three (3) trainings First Sergeant Meyer mentioned.

First Sergeant Meyer stated CFR includes CPR, AED, and first aid, but those three (3) trainings can be done separately. He stated recertification training for the CPR, AED, and first aid could be done in one (1) day.

Legislator Nacerino stated the EMT training and test is much more difficult than the CFR training and test.

First Sergeant Meyer stated that is correct.

Legislator Nacerino stated a problem was faced when local volunteers were unable to pass the test, which contributed to the shortage of volunteers.

First Sergeant Meyer stated when the CFR training was initiated there was a shortage of volunteers. He stated to combat this, the County devised a plan where the 160 Sheriff's Deputies and Corrections Officers would become certified and therefore be able to supplement the ambulance staff. He stated the reality was that many Sheriff's Department employees reside in Dutchess County and as a result, a paid service was brought in. He stated the intention was good, but did not work out the way they had hoped.

Legislator LoBue stated the responsibility of the County is to keep the public safe and the Sheriff's Department is always the first on the scene. She stated she is aware of a situation in Southeast where someone had a heart attack and they waited what they felt was an inordinate amount of time for the ambulance to arrive, but the Sheriff's Department was there within minutes. She stated that is why it was the intention of the former County Executive to make sure the Sheriff's Department was trained and able to assist people because they are on the scene first.

Chairman Castellano questioned since the training is done every three (3) years if each year a third of the force takes it.

First Sergeant Meyer stated it depends when each person expires. He stated there is a large group who got certified at the same time; therefore they expire at the same time as well.

Chairman Castellano questioned if coverage is needed because not all years require the same amount. He stated the overtime amount should be budgeted because the overtime is required for the training.

Legislator LoBue stated the overtime funding should be planned for.

Chairman Castellano stated he believes the overtime is budgeted for a third of the force to attend the training, however this year more than a third need to recertify. He stated for this reason, he believes there should be a surplus next year.

First Sergeant Meyer stated this year all the classes were held during the day. He stated overtime depends on the schedules of the employees who are required to take the training.

Legislator LoBue stated the scheduling of both the deputies work schedule and the training classes could be coordinated. She stated the training requirement has been in place for a long time.

First Sergeant Meyer stated both Corrections Officers and Sheriff's Deputies are required to take this training.

Legislator Sullivan stated he would like to reiterate Legislator Nacerino's comment regarding having more information included with the fund transfers.

Chairman Castellano agreed.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 17T249; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #11 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T255/ Sheriff's Dept./ Training Overtime, Jail Overtime, & Temporary**

Chairman Castellano stated he believes new employees have been hired, which will reduce the amount of overtime currently needed.

First Sergeant Meyer stated there are currently six (6) employees in the academy.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #12 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T256/ Sheriff's Dept./ Overtime to Cover Open Personnel Lines September-October**

Legislator Nacerino questioned where the open personnel lines are.

Commissioner Carlin stated the lines are in the jail.

Legislator Nacerino stated item #10 addressed a fund transfer for about \$80,000 needed for overtime in the jail. She stated this fund transfer is for another \$10,000 for the same reason. She stated she would like to see more definition as to why this is necessary. She questioned why this is being addressed on separate fund transfers.



She stated the Legislature is asked to approve these fund transfers with very little information and each Legislator should be aware of what they are voting for or against.

First Sergeant Meyer stated he cannot specifically explain this fund transfer.

Legislator LoBue stated backup information is a requirement.

Legislator Jonke stated he would suggest that the memos that accompany the fund transfers include more information and details moving forward so the Legislature has a better understanding of what is being moved.

First Sergeant Meyer stated the jail still has open positions, some employees are out on injury, and there some going through the academy. He stated they have been struggling to cover shifts.

Chairman Castellano stated he would like to see a report of how many employees are needed, how many there are, and how many are out at the Protective Services Committee. He questioned what the cause of overtime would be at the jail.

First Sergeant Meyer stated there is a minimum staffing requirement in the jail therefore overtime would be needed if there are corrections officers on vacation, who call in sick, in training, or out on an injury. He stated overtime is also required for constant watches. He stated if an inmate comes into the jail who is suspected to be suicidal, an officer is pulled to watch that inmate 24/7, which also goes by shift and would require overtime.

Chairman Castellano stated that is a perfect example of the jail equivalent of an officer on road patrol making an arrest at the end of their shift and needing to stay longer to process the arrest. He stated he would like to see a report of how often constant watches are needed in the course of a month to get a better sense of the overtime costs. He stated this should be a discussion had in Protective Services moving forward.

First Sergeant Meyer stated there were three (3) constant watches this morning.

Legislator Sullivan questioned who makes the decision of an inmate requiring constant watch.

First Sergeant Meyer stated the decision is made through a medical screening that is done where the inmate will answer a series of questions. He stated there is a constant watch, a 15 minute watch, and a 30 minute watch. He stated the jail has been struggling because they are down so many employees.

Legislator Jonke questioned what this particular fund transfer was for.

First Sergeant Meyer stated he could not break it down specifically.

Legislator Jonke restated that the memos that accompany the fund transfers should include more details.

Legislator LoBue stated all financial transfers should have backup included, but that has fallen off the radar. She stated with the proper information the Legislature can be aware of what they are voting on.

Legislator Jonke stated that is not a lot to ask for.

Legislator Castellano stated it would make sense to submit the breakdown of the overtime or report with fund transfers for the purpose of covering overtime costs.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #13 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T271/ Dept. of Social Services/ Cover Overtime for Probation Officers/ 10/1/2017-12/31/2017**

Legislator Nacerino stated this fund transfer included a clear definition of the purpose, which makes it easier for the Legislature.

Chairman Castellano read the description into the record.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 17T271; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #14 - Approval/ Grant Application/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant**

Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated the Putnam County Hazard Mitigation plan was put in place July 13, 2015 and is a five (5) year plan which runs through July 13, 2020 and must be renewed before then. He stated the Federal Government has made funding available to update the plans. He stated that this grant does not have a set amount to be applied for, but rather allowed the municipalities to request an amount. He stated the cost to create the plan is \$109,000 and the Bureau of Emergency Services requested \$150,000. He stated a higher amount was requested because they are anticipating a response of a lower amount and did not want to be undercut. He stated this grant requires a 25% match and will be in-kind in salaries and time spent. He stated they are already preparing for the County Emergency Preparedness Assessment, which is the first step taken in updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan. He stated the plan encompasses all nine (9) municipalities, plus the County of Putnam. He stated this plan runs from 2018 to 2021 and they encourage anyone with expiration within that time frame to apply for the funding. He stated hopefully a good amount is received through the grant and a consultant can be hired to assist with updating the plan. He stated an important aspect of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is that without it, the Bureau of Emergency Services is ineligible for other grants.

Chairman Castellano clarified that \$150,000 was requested and the County is required to match 25% of the amount received.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated that is correct.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #15 - Approval/ Semi-Annual Mortgage Tax Payments – 4/1/2017 to 9/30/2017**

Chairman Castellano stated this shows the money collected by the County Clerk's Office for mortgage tax that is reimbursed back to the local municipalities.

Legislator Albano questioned what "Town Outside" refers to.

Commissioner Carlin stated where there are towns and villages "Town Outside" refers to all areas excluding the village.

Legislator Jonke questioned how the apportionments are calculated; by parcel or assessment.

Commissioner Carlin stated a percentage is used, but he is not sure how it is calculated. He stated he believes it is calculated by assessment, but that can be confirmed with the Director of Real Property.

Chairman Castellano stated the last page of the report shows the numbers over the past five (5) periods back to April 2015.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**Item #16 - Model Resolutions/ Federal Tax Reform to Include Provision that would Eliminate the State & Local Tax (SALT) Deduction**

- a. NYSAC Resolution**
- b. NACo (National Association of Counties) Resolution**
- c. Erie County Resolution**

Chairman Castellano stated the Legislature has received a few variations of this resolution, from NYSAC (New York State Association of Counties, NACo (National Association of Counties, and Erie County.

Commissioner Carlin stated this is critically important to Putnam County because most people deduct their State and Local taxes. He stated this elimination would be very harmful to Putnam and devastating to all of New York.

Legislator Albano stated the concept is that the other deductions will offset this deduction, however in New York nothing will come close to property taxes and the

deductions there. He stated this may work better in other areas of the Country where property taxes are not as high, but this would be harmful in New York.

Commissioner Carlin stated it would also hurt the real estate market as property values would decrease.

Legislator Albano stated the tax is necessary to contribute to the government; however this would be another tax on top of it.

Legislator Jonke stated it is his understanding that the House of Representatives introduced a version of the bill today, meaning it is moving.

Commissioner Carlin stated this is perceived as a wealthy issue and it is not. He stated this will affect the middle class greatly.

Legislator Sullivan stated this would be devastating to the New York State taxpayer. He stated residents would be paying twice because they would lose the deduction and be forced to reduce the value of their house to sell it.

Legislator Albano stated the taxes are taken directly out, therefore tax would be paid on money the resident never sees.

Legislator Sullivan stated the argument is that they are subsidizing New Yorkers. He stated he recently saw that New York gets back \$0.78 for every \$1 sent to the Federal Government.

Chairman Castellano stated it seems that everyone is in agreement to support one (1) of the resolutions.

Legislator Sullivan, Legislator Jonke, Legislator Albano, & Commissioner Carlin all stated they like the NYSAC resolution best.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to memorialize the NYSAC Resolution – Urging the NYS Congressional Delegation to Preserve the Federal Income Tax Deduction for State and Local Taxes (SALT); Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

#### **Item #17 - Other Business**

##### **a. Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T286/ Office for Senior Resources/ Consumer Directed Program**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the other business; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Director of the Office for Senior Resources Pat Sheehy stated over the years, a few different things have been tried to get home health aides. She stated difficulty getting home health aides is a problem all over New York State. She stated it is particularly a problem in an area such as Putnam County because the rates that the providers are

paid do not allow them to live in the County. She stated they decided to try the consumer directed program, which has been successful in other parts of New York State. She stated they began this program in August and it has become very successful. She stated in order to keep the program funded at the level that it is right now, a transfer of \$66,000 would need to be made into the program to get through the rest of the year. She stated in August \$1,400 was spent for the program, in September about \$13,000 was spent, and in October \$25,000 has been spent. She stated many of the people have been waiting for a long time to have an aide. She stated going forward next year; a plan is in place to keep the program going. She stated they will look into available State funding and will allocate the money differently so the needs within the County can be met.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

**b. Approval/ Fund Transfer 17T283/ Highway/ Tilly Foster Farm/  
Building #8 – Propane & Electricity, Cleaning/ Vet Services through  
Year End**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the other business; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 17T283; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #18 - Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 7:30p.m. Chairman Castellano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Beth Green.