

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512
(Chairman Albano, Legislators Gouldman & Nacerino)**

Thursday

September 19, 2019

(Immediately Followed the 5:30PM Health Comm. Mtg.)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Chairman Albano who requested that Legislator Castellano lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Gouldman, Nacerino and Chairman Albano were present.

Item #3 – Approval/ Communication Tower Agreement County of Putnam with Tri- Valley Broadcasting Corporation “WMJV Tower” in Holmes New York/ First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro

Chairman Albano stated First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro and IT/GIS Director Tom Lannon are present to speak to this matter.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated this is an agreement to allow the County to co-locate some emergency services equipment that is needed for the County’s Interoperability Program. He stated basically it is a lease agreement that will allow for equipment plus room in a shelter co-occupied by the MTA. He stated if the Committee Members would like to discuss any more specific terms of the lease, he would recommend it be done in Executive Session.

Chairman Albano stated this is a very good opportunity for the County to negotiate the lease. He stated the Interoperability is imperative, our police forces and fire departments need to all be able to communicate with each other and other Counties.

Legislator Gouldman questioned why this tower was selected versus another tower.

IT/GIS Director Tom Lannon stated this tower is at a premium height, it has the visibility of most of the County’s other towers. He stated also it provides radio coverage in a portion of Patterson all the way to this area. He stated that it actually overlaps in some areas, which is very good. He stated that the County, as spoken of in previous meetings, uses a Microwave system which links all of the County’s towers. He explained with the Microwave system you must have line of sight below tree line, on any given mountain. He stated this tower met all of the County’s requirements. He stated the reason this is a time of the essence matter is because the owner of the tower is selling it to a large tower corporation. He stated the owner is willing to allow the County to have the space on the tower for a nominal amount of money. He stated, once the sale is complete the owner will have no authority on what to charge the County. He stated the sale is going through at the end of September. He stated if we do not sign with the current owner, the County would be charged approximately \$4,000 a month. He stated that the owner has gone above and beyond in terms of working with the County out of his sense of civic duty.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve the Communication Tower Agreement County of Putnam with Tri- Valley Broadcasting Corporation “WMJV Tower” in Holmes New York; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #4 - Approval/ Resolutions Capital Projects/ Assistant Supervisor of Planning & Design Alexis Hawley

Chairman Albano stated that Highways and Facilities Commissioner Fred Pena, Highways and Facilities Deputy Commissioner John Tully and Planning, Development and Public Transportation Commissioner Sandra Fusco are present to speak to these agenda items. He facilitated brief discussion.

- a. Approval/ Fair Street Reconstruction Project- PIN 8756.09 Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, And Appropriating Funds Therefore/ Detailed Design and Right-of-Way Acquisition**

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Fair Street Reconstruction Project- PIN 8756.09 Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, And Appropriating Funds Therefore/ Detailed Design and Right-of-Way Acquisition; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

- b. Approval/ Sodom Road Bridge Replacement- PIN 8756.04 – (BIN 2224030) Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, And Appropriating Funds Therefore/ Detailed Design and Right-of-Way Acquisition**

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Sodom Road Bridge Replacement- PIN 8756.04 – (BIN 2224030) Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, And Appropriating Funds Therefore/ Detailed Design and Right-of-Way Acquisition; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor

- c. Approval/ Sodom Road Bridge Replacement- PIN 8756.04 – (BIN 2224030) Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, And Appropriating Funds Therefore/ Construction and Construction Inspection**

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Sodom Road Bridge Replacement- PIN 8756.04 – (BIN 2224030) Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, And Appropriating Funds Therefore/ Construction and Construction Inspection; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #5 - Approval/ Bond - Sodom Road Bridge Replacement in the Town of Southeast/ Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena

Deputy Commissioner Tully stated this bond, in the amount of \$580,000, is to fund the construction component of the Sodom Road Bridge Replacement project. He stated the agenda item that follows, #6 is to fund the Detailed Design needed for the Sodom Road Bridge project.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Bond for Sodom Road Bridge Replacement in the Town of Southeast; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A061)/ Budget for Sodom Road Bridge Improvement Project PIN 8756.04/ Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment (19A061)/ Budget for Sodom Road Bridge Improvement Project PIN 8756.04; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval/ 19CP10 - Pole Barn Master Plan Design to be located at the Highway Department Yard/ Not To Exceed \$50,000/ Assistant Supervisor of Planning & Design Alexis Hawley

Commissioner Pena stated storage of the County Trucks and wash bay have been a matter of discussion for years. He stated the current barn structure is dilapidated. He stated this is a request to move forward with a design plan for a truck storage structure to replace what is currently there. He stated that there will need to be some site work done as well.

Chairman Albano stated once the design phase is complete and you have the specifications to accommodate the large trucks, hopefully there will be a prefab structure that would save time. He stated that then down the line in relation to the wash bays, the County may find companies that would come to the County’s location and wash the truck a couple of times a year.

Chair Albano made a motion to approve 19CP10 - Pole Barn Master Plan Design to be located at the Highway Department Yard; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #8 - Approval/ State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determination – Repairs and Renovations to the Façade of the Putnam County Office Building/ Commissioner of Planning, Development and Public Transportation Sandra Fusco

Commissioner Fusco stated when a Bond is used to fund a project, Bond Council requires a SEQR.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she is happy to see this project is being addressed. She stated it has been being discussed for a long time and it is imperative that the repairs get done.

Commissioner Pena stated the scope is the complete masonry envelope, the parapet, the roof and the rehab of the windows of the County Office Building. He stated they did look into replacing all of the windows. He stated after analyzation and discussion it was determined the best course of action was to rehab the windows.

Chairman Albano questioned if Article 9 is part of this work.

Commissioner Pena stated that the Article 9 will do the window rehabilitations.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determination – Repairs and Renovations to the Façade of the Putnam County Office Building; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #9- Approval/ Bond - Repairs and Renovations to the Façade of the Putnam County Office Building/ Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena

Chairman Albano stated this Bond is in the amount of \$800,000 to cover the expense of the County Office Building Facade Project.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Bond - Repairs and Renovations to the Façade of the Putnam County Office Building; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #10 - Approval/ Authorization to Execute New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Mass Transportation Capital Project Agreement/ Transportation Related Projects: “ADA Transit Accessibility II Sidewalks Project” (in Village of Brewster, Town of Southeast and Town of Carmel) and “Rehabilitation of Putnam County Transit Facility Project”/ Commissioner of Planning, Development and Public Transportation Sandra Fusco

Commissioner Fusco stated this resolution is required by the State in order to receive the County’s reimbursement for the various projects listed.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Authorization to Execute New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Mass Transportation Capital Project Agreement/ Transportation Related Projects: “ADA Transit Accessibility II Sidewalks Project” (in Village of

Brewster, Town of Southeast and Town of Carmel) and “Rehabilitation of Putnam County Transit Facility Project”; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #11- Update/ Maintenance of Shoreline of Lake Gleneida/ Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena

Commissioner Fred Pena provided a bit of history with the County’s working relationship with the New York State Department of Environmental Protection (NYS DEP). He stated recently he met with members of the NYS DEP and they have agreed on a simple maintenance program for the shoreline of Lake Gleneida.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated the County’s old plan was entitled the Putnam County Lakeshore Revitalization Plan. He stated that plan condensed the maintenance permit, the shoreline permit and the hiking trail permit all under one (1) permit. He stated over the past few years it was determined the County, with its current number of employees could not manage the shoreline to what the NYS DEP wanted done. He stated so the permits were separated in the new proposal and the County made that proposal back to the NYS DEP. He stated so the County is now allowed to mow the lawn of the shoreline, put up the flags, have the parades and put the portable stage on the shoreline. He stated the maintenance of the hiking trail around the back of the lake the County will maintain also. He stated that is all under one (1) permit. He stated there was a second permit application addressing specifically the shoreline and reverting back to an older method, which allows the County to cut it twice a year with a mechanical mower. He stated invasive species will remain there and continue as a buffer to protect the water. He stated the invasive species will be cut to the County’s desired height. He stated a third permit was submitted requesting that a collective thinning and clearing of growth be allowed from Church Street all the way to the Willow Road and slightly past that.

Chairman Albano stated volunteers from the Carmel Civic Association in the past volunteered and did a lot of great work along the shoreline.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated the NYS DEP is receptive to volunteers being a part of the work now, where in the past they kind of frowned upon the idea of volunteers. He stated that the Boat Stanchion was never approved. He stated however they have asked that the County resubmit their proposals for them. He stated a huge obstacle for the County is the lack of manpower.

Legislator Sullivan stated that you cannot even see the lake at this point when you are coming into Carmel from Mahopac. He supports work that will open up that view.

Chairman Albano stated he would like to begin discussion about getting the lake back under County control. He stated the water in Lake Gleneida is not a water source.

Item #12 - Discussion/ Plan for Maintenance on Putnam County Bike Path/ Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena & Commissioner of Planning, Development and Public Transportation Sandra Fusco/ Physical Services Committee Chairman Carl Albano

Chairman Albano stated he has been approached by residents who are concerned with the condition of some areas of the Bike Path (Path). He questioned how often are the conditions along the Path checked by the County Highways and Facilities Department employees.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated the Path is mowed about every two (2) weeks.

Chairman Albano questioned if a visual inspection and list is kept during those times when employees are mowing.

Commissioner Pena stated if his Department receives notice of an issue, he will dispatch employees out to attend to the matter, such as graffiti, etc. He stated the maintenance of the Path is adding quite a bit of work to Director Ruthven's Department. He stated roughly the County spends \$150,000 per year in maintenance cost for the Path. He stated an additional concern is the Governor's proposal to create an Empire Trail. Which would be a continuous trail leading off our existing Path. He stated it is a great idea, but the Operations and Maintenance (O & M) of that is of grave concern. He stated it has the potential of doubling the amount of Path in Putnam County. He stated if that comes to fruition, there would need to be additional employees hired.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated the County is struggling now. He stated in 2018 a total of 2,470.05 hours were spent by County employees maintaining the Path.

Chairman Albano questioned if there is a repaving schedule.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated there is a root issue on the path. He stated currently they are going out and doing patch work. He stated they cut, rip out and repave areas as needed. He stated they are doing temporary fixes by tacking a black top grinder out and shaving the tops off to remove the hazard. He stated it does not stop the underlying problems with the roots. He stated that it is time to start replacing blacktop. He stated there are areas of the Path that are 15 years old.

Commissioner Pena stated it is a logistic challenge, a 10 wheeler truck is not going to fit on the Path.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there was ever an original O & M plan.

Commissioner Pena stated there was not.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated the first section was originally built by the NYS Department of Transportation and it was then turned over to Putnam County.

Legislator Nacerino stated now the County is facing problems with an aging Path. She stated that she is happy about the Governor's proposal to expand the Path, because it will go into her district, the Town of Patterson, eventually. She stated unfortunately it is another unfunded mandate.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated that Westchester County is dealing with the same challenge with the section of the Path that goes through their County.

Chairman Albano suggested working a dedicated amount of funding in the Highways & Facilities budget to address the work that will be required in the coming years.

Commissioner Pena stated that Commissioner Fusco has been researching potential funding sources to support the O & M of the Path.

Chairman Albano stated Commissioner Fusco has been successful in getting funding for many different projects that are in the "transportation" category and the Path would also be part of that.

Commissioner Fusco stated she put an application in last month from "Rail Trails". She stated that there is also discussion about shared services. She stated that she is always looking for opportunities to receive some financial relief. She stated that she speaks with members of other municipalities and questions how they are handling this expense. She stated there will be 25 of the 62 Counties affected by the Empire Trail project. She stated and not everybody has an answer. She stated that she will continue to search to find funding opportunities.

Chairman Albano stated a few years back there was consideration of a Signage Company to generate income, it had great potential. He stated yes it is a natural attraction, but they are not free to maintain. He stated if revenue could be generated to offset the costs it would be a positive.

Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Ruthven stated the County's Path is the most used facility in the Parks Department of the County. He stated it is appreciated and used by a lot of people in the County.

Commissioner Pena stated that he will begin looking into the type of equipment that will be needed to rehabilitate the Path.

Chairman Albano stated that would be great, even for the County to have a rough cost projection of the equipment would be of value as the County projects related costs into the future for the Path.

Item #13 - Discussion/ Cornell Cooperative Extension Office Conditions/ Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena/ Legislator Toni Addonizio

Legislator Addonizio stated she is the Legislative representative to the Cornell Cooperative Extension Board. She stated that she attends meetings at their office. She stated the office space was last painted approximately 20 years ago and there is a mold problem. She stated that she believes that has been addressed.

Commissioner Pena stated the Article 9 Folks are looking to replace the windows. He stated there has been a window replacement done on the other side in the Department of Health Offices. He stated the same thing will be done for the Cornell Cooperative Office if the windows do not make it on the Article 9 list. He stated once the water issue has been address then everything else can occur, such as the painting.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there is any kind of schedule to address painting County facility office space. She stated 20 years seems like a very long time.

Commissioner Pena stated that there is no specific plan. He stated that there is a focus on major renovation projects, but they do try to get into different areas to repaint and do repairs. He stated as work orders come into his office a determination may be made to do additional work in that area.

Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension Stephanie Hubert thanked Commissioner Pena for sending his staff to their offices. She questioned if the mediation of the mold is on hold waiting funding.

Commissioner Pena stated no. He stated a repair work order should be in place and any mold should be addressed immediately. He stated that he will confirm that everything is in place to get that addressed.

**Item #15 – Discussion/ Truck Traffic on Fair Street Northwest Towards Route 311/
Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley & Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred
Pena/ Legislator Ginny Nacerino**

Sheriff Langley stated that he did speak with the constituent directly, who reported this specific matter. He stated that the constituent reported that he has seen this two (2) or three (3) times this year. He stated that he also spoke with Deputy Commissioner Tully at the Traffic Safety Board meeting this evening, regarding the signage that was posted by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT). He stated that he believes the placement of the signs is inadequate. He stated Deputy Commissioner Tully stated that he would contact a representative from the DOT to discuss this.

Commissioner Pena stated his office does not have the jurisdiction over the movement of truck traffic. He stated it is in the jurisdiction of the NYS DOT to notify the truck drivers. He stated that they are seeing more signs on County roads, because they are “connector” roads from State Roads. He stated so if a road is closed off to truck traffic an alternate truck route needs to be provided. He stated the bridge structure is one that needs to be addressed and the County will work with the NYS DOT on it.

Legislator Nacerino stated she asked for this matter to be on the agenda in response to her constituent and Town Supervisor’s communication with her. She stated she realizes the County has limitations in terms of authority in this instance. She stated however the photo supplied by the constituent captured a truck going over the yellow line into the opposite side of traffic. She stated that she would like action taken to bring this matter to the appropriate agency who does have the authority.

Sheriff Langley stated as a point of information the more restrictions that are placed on the traffic flow, it encroaches on the availability for grant funding.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she believes giving attention to the location by patrolling it and tracking any future incidents will be valuable information to the level of action that should be taken.

Sheriff Langley stated that he recognizes the concern. He stated the roadways throughout our County are absolutely of concern to him. He stated that he is concerned with the causeway off of Route 301. He stated he has requested that the NYS DOT send an engineer to evaluate the structure. He stated he would like a professional determination made as to whether the structure has become compromised as a result of all of the oversized vehicle traffic.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she would like to summarize the action on behalf of Commissioner Pena related to signage addressing her constituent's concern.

Commissioner Pena stated he will look into signage of undersize/ under clearance bridge structure. He stated he believes that bridge has the height clearance that meets the NYS DOT standards. He stated that he will take a closer look at it. He stated as the Sheriff stated they are working with the NYS DOT on alerting trucks to the low clearance bridges on Route 164 and on Route 311.

Sheriff Langley stated they are also trying to find a way to address the GPS routing factor.

Legislator Nacerino stated raising awareness is a step in the right direction.

Item #16 - Other Business

Chairman Albano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the Other Business; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

a. Approval/19CP07 – Carmel Friendship Center (Building #1 Project)

Deputy Commissioner Tully stated per a review of the Building #1 Project the Legislature advanced \$250,000 several months back. He stated that was done in anticipation of the County receiving Grant Funding applied for through Senator Harckham's office. He stated all indications are that the County will receive the Grant Funding, but it is still in the paper work process. He explained that the Building #1 Project is at a stage where an additional \$90,000 is needed to finish. He stated the combined amount of the \$250,000 and this request of \$90,000 totaling \$340,000, is still less than the Grant that is being applied for.

Legislator Gouldman stated then it is really a loan, the County will be reimbursed once the Grant Funding is awarded.

Deputy Commissioner Tully stated that is correct.

Commissioner Pena stated the project is about 80% complete and there is a target date of re-opening the Carmel Friendship Center by 2019 Thanksgiving.

Legislator Nacerino made a motion to approve \$90,000 for the Capital Project: 19CP07 - Carmel Friendship Center; Seconded by Chairman Albano. All in favor.

Item #14 - Discussion/ Putnam County SPCA's Search for new Location/ Legislator Toni Addonizio

Chairman Albano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the Additional for Item #14; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Legislator Addonizio stated she was contacted by constituents who were concerned about the SPCA's situation of losing their current space they work out of. She stated that she contacted the members of the SPCA and showed them some different properties in Putnam County. She stated at this time she does not want to get specific in listing the locations. She stated that there is a target time frame of January 2020 that the County Executive has stated that she has funding in her tentative 2020 budget that will help with this matter.

Chairman Albano stated that if it is possible the County would like to help. He stated the Legislature will be reviewing the tentative 2020 budget during the month of October.

Jennifer Pagnillo, SPCA Attorney stated she understands at this time there can be no specifics announced. She questioned will there be a way to get a decision in time for the SPCA to be ready.

Chairman Albano confirmed that the hope is that a final decision will be made in the next month or so.

Item #17 - Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:55PM Chairman Albano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.