

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
HELD IN THE
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Tuesday March 7, 2023 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Jonke who requested Legislator Nacerino lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Legislator Crowley lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Ellner, Castellano, Sayegh, Crowley and Chairman Jonke were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Firriolo.

PROCLAMATIONS

Chairman Jonke recognized Legislator Montgomery who presented the Haldane High School Varsity Boys Soccer New York State Class C Championship proclamation to Head Coach Ahmed Dwidar, Assistant Coach John Rotando and members of the Soccer Team.

**HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BOYS SOCCER
NEW YORK STATE CLASS C CHAMPIONSHIP**

WHEREAS, the hard work, dedication, sportsmanship, talent, and exceptional team chemistry of the Haldane High School Varsity Boys Soccer Team led them to become the first boys' team in the school's history to win a New York State Class C Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Haldane Varsity Boys Soccer Team was one of 200 teams across the State vying for the Championship title. Throughout the season they faced some of the best teams, coming out victorious each time; and

WHEREAS, the champions on the Haldane Varsity Boys Soccer Team have brought honor to Haldane Central School District, the town of Philipstown, and Putnam County by showcasing the respect they have for one another, understanding they are each a vital component to the success of the team as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Ahmed Dwidar and Assistant Coach John Rotando, team members parents, faculty and student body at Haldane High School were integral in guiding the team to victory through their unwavering support in bringing home the New York State Class C Championship title; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne and the Putnam County Legislature hereby congratulate the Varsity Boys Soccer Team on winning the State Class C Championship and being the very first boys team in the history of Haldane High School to win a State Championship!

Chairman Jonke recognized Legislator Nacerino who presented the Patterson Historical Society proclamation to the following members of the Patterson Historical Society, President Ron Taylor, Treasurer Patricia Ploeger, Secretary Barbara Bartfield and Susan Bouton.

PATTERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, February 22, 2023 marked the 50th anniversary of the Patterson Historical Society. On the same date in 1973 the New York State Board of Regents chartered the organization, creating a place to collect and preserve historical documents and artifacts relating to the Town of Patterson; and

WHEREAS, upon their commencement the Patterson Historical Society established the Heritage Room in the Patterson Library where they began their collection of historical documents and photographs. Their full collection now includes over 100,000 collected and preserved documents and images. Many have also been digitized and are available to view anytime online; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of historic structures as well as documents and artifacts, the Patterson Historical Society moved the Little Red Schoolhouse from Route 22 to South Street, restored it, and continues to maintain it. The Little Red Schoolhouse is now a destination where field trips are often taken by students of Matthew Patterson Elementary School, allowing them to immerse themselves in the history of the town they are growing up in. The Patterson Historical Society also worked to restore and continues to maintain the Old Burying Ground by clearing overgrowth and repairing and resetting Revolutionary War era headstones; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Patterson Historical Society published a book detailing the history of the Town of Patterson complete with hundreds of photos and maps, allowing the reader to accurately visualize their beloved town through the years. They have also been collecting and preserving video and audio interviews of residents, offering a unique firsthand experience of life in Patterson. All of their work has created an ongoing time capsule for the Town of Patterson; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne and the Putnam County Legislature hereby congratulate the Patterson Historical Society as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. We thank them for their continuous work to preserve the history of the Town of Patterson while keeping it alive!

**Item #4 – Acceptance of Minutes – Regular Meeting – February 7, 2023
Public Hearing 6:30pm – February 7, 2023
Public Hearing 6:45pm – February 7, 2023**

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #5 – Correspondence

a) County Auditor was duly noted.

Item #6 – Pre-filed resolutions:

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Nacerino, Legislators Addonizio & Sayegh)**

Item #6a – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (23A004)/ Emergency Services/ FY2022 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant was next. Chairman Jonke recognized Legislator Nacerino, Chairwoman of the Protective Services Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Sayegh, Legislator Nacerino moved the following:

RESOLUTION #49

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (23A004)/ EMERGENCY SERVICES/ FY2022 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP) GRANT

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2022 New York State Homeland Security and Emergency Services informed Putnam County of a grant award in the amount of \$234,731 under the FY2022 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP); and

WHEREAS, funding for this grant is provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and administered by the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) on behalf of FEMA; and

WHEREAS, per the Federal guidelines, at least 30% (\$70,419) of the award must be directed towards law enforcement terrorism prevention activities; and

WHEREAS, there are no matching funds required and the performance period for this grant is from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services has requested a budgetary amendment (22A004) to account for said grant award; and

WHEREAS, the Protective Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Appropriations:

10398901 52680 10200	Other Equipment	10,000
10398901 52650 10200	Motor Vehicles	121,731
10364501 52195 10200	Rescue Equipment	15,000
10364501 52680 10200	Other Equipment	18,000
10364501 54646 10200	Contracts	<u>70,000</u>
		<u>234,731</u>

Increase Estimate Revenues:

10398901 440891 10200	Federal Aid – FY22 SHSP	131,731
10364501 440891 10200	Federal Aid – FY22 SHSP	<u>103,000</u>
		<u>234,731</u>

2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2024 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6b – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (23A005)/ Finance/ Legal Aid Society/ State Aid Indigent Legal Services was next. On behalf of the members of the Protective Services Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Sayegh, Legislator Nacerino moved the following:

RESOLUTION #50

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (23A005)/ FINANCE/ LEGAL AID SOCIETY/ STATE AID INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (23A005) to adjust the 2023 budget to account for State Aid from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County acts as a pass through for these funds; and

WHEREAS, the Protective Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

25117000 54950	Legal Aid Society	646,452
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

25117000 430251	State Aid – Indigent Legal Services	646,452
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2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2024 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6c – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (23A006)/ Sheriff’s Department/ New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Grant Funding/ Body Worn Cameras was next. On behalf of the members of the Protective Services Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Sayegh, Legislator Nacerino moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery stated that she reviewed the discussions of the Audit & Administration Committee and Protective Services Committee meetings and still did not understand the logic of failing to request and not having access to a policy for these body worn cameras. She questioned who would store the data, for how long, and who would have access to it. She stated that other counties have policies which have been made public. She explained that the mission behind police policy reform was for transparency, community outreach, accountability, public safety, and training. She explained that this Legislature held up the implementation of license plate readers for almost one (1) year until a policy was in place. She stated that she does not intend to do that here, however, she will continue to advocate for transparency, community outreach, accountability, public safety, and training. She explained that the County’s policy which was adopted and sent to the state included wording that insured detailed descriptions of departmental policies are made readily available to the public via the Sheriff’s website. She stated that these policies which were previously posted on the County’s website have been taken down. She explained that the Legislature does not have a copy of the policy and school districts where they are being used cannot see the policy. She believed that they should not have to ask for it and that the policy should have been provided to them. She supported the use of body worn cameras but believed that the policy should be accessible to the public.

Chairman Jonke stated that he has communicated with Sheriff McConville since the Committee meetings. He stated that the Sheriff informed him that he would come to a Protective Services Committee meeting and go over the policy with the Legislature in executive session. He stated that it was the Sheriff’s responsibility to protect the safety and lives of the men and women working for the Sheriff’s Department.

Legislator Nacerino concurred. She too spoke with Sheriff McConville and stated that the policy would be presented at the next Protective Services Committee meeting. She stated that we really must look at the big picture and the essence of what we are considering. She stated that protecting our deputies and public is vital. She stated that this has been thoroughly vetted by the Protective and Audit Committees. She believed

that the license plate reader policy and a body worn camera policy were apples to oranges in comparison. She stated that the deputies have agreed to wear them. She stated that it is for their own safety and protection. She explained that there was no reason justified by the PBA, so the deputies comply by their own free will. She stated that the Legislature will be reviewing the policy.

Legislator Ellner clarified that the item before us is whether or not we are approving the funding for body worn cameras. He believed that the policy was a separate issue.

Chairman Jonke and Legislator Nacerino concurred.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the PBA has signed off on the policy.

Chairman Jonke believed that there was one (1) item that they have not agreed to yet.

Legislator Ellner called a point of order and clarified that we were just addressing funding and not a policy.

Chairman Jonke agreed.

Legislator Nacerino called the question.

RESOLUTION #51

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (23A006)/ SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT/ NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES (DCJS) GRANT FUNDING/ BODY WORN CAMERAS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff's Department has been awarded \$40,000 for a one-time grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS); and

WHEREAS, this funding will provide for the addition of 20 Body Worn Cameras (BWC) bundles at a cost of \$2,000 per bundle; and

WHEREAS, DCJS is not currently supporting the continued maintenance and leasing costs of this equipment for the duration of the current lease agreement with Axon; and

WHEREAS, there are no matching funds required by the County; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested consideration of the acceptance of this award to allow for the expansion of the BWC program into the correctional facility, jail transportation teams, and among the Special Patrol Officers in public facing positions; and

WHEREAS, the Protective Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment (23A006) be made:

Increase Appropriations:

10311000 52680 10201	Other Equip – Body Worn Cameras (BWC)	40,000
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

10311000 430890 10201	State Aid – FY22-23 (BWC) Grant	40,000
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2024 Fiscal Impact \$56,000

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. ONE ABSTENTION – LEGISLATOR CROWLEY.
MOTION CARRIES.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
(Chairman Jonke, Legislators Castellano & Nacerino)

Item #6d – Approval/ Fund Transfer (23T033)/ Planning Department/ Reclassification Planner II Position to Principal Planner was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Castellano and Nacerino, Chairman Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #52

APPROVAL/ FUND TRANSFER (23T033)/ PLANNING DEPARTMENT/ RECLASSIFICATION PLANNER II POSITION TO PRINCIPAL PLANNER

WHEREAS, the Acting Administrator of Planning is requesting the reclassification of the Planner II position to a Principal Planner position, pursuant to a completed desk audit conducted by the Personnel Department; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Administrator of Planning has requested a fund transfer (23T033) to account for this reclassification effective 1/01/23; and

WHEREAS, the proposed difference in salary and fringes will be transferred from the vacant Commissioner of Planning position; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said reclassification and fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approve said reclassification and that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

10802000 51000 10101	Personnel – Planning Commissioner	8,389
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Increase:

10802000 51000 10107	Personnel – Principal Planner	8,389
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2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2024 Fiscal Impact - \$8,844

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Sayegh, Legislators Crowley & Nacerino)

Item #6e – Approval/ Fund Transfer (22T418)/ Social Services/ Care State Training was next. Chairman Jonke recognized Legislator Sayegh, Chairwoman of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Crowley and Nacerino, Legislator Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #53

APPROVAL/ FUND TRANSFER (22T418)/ SOCIAL SERVICES/ CARE STATE TRAINING

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Social Services has requested a fund transfer (22T418) to reallocate County funds to cover NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) chargeback for placement in a state facility from 4/8/21 – 12/31/21; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

10431000 54950	County Contribution	104,814
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Increase:

10612900 54413	Care State Training	104,814
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2022 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6f – Approval/ Fund Transfer (23T017)/ Office for Senior Resources/ Building Rental (Butterfield Senior Center) was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Crowley and Nacerino, Legislator Sayegh moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery stated that during the Audit Committee meeting, her colleagues mentioned that the Village of Cold Spring prohibits the use of that building for anything other than senior citizens. She explained that in researching that matter she looked at the site plan application and the lease. She stated that there was nothing in the lease that prohibits the use of the building. She stated that the lease states that the senior community center facility shall remain the center for the general public for all Putnam County seniors and can only be changed with the written permission of the landlord. She believed that the County Clerk, along with other departments, wanted to utilize it to provide services. She stated that all the County needs to do is ask the landlord.

RESOLUTION #54

APPROVAL/ FUND TRANSFER (23T017)/ OFFICE FOR SENIOR RESOURCES/ BUILDING RENTAL (Butterfield Senior Center)

WHEREAS, the Director of the Office for Senior Resources has requested a fund transfer (23T017) to place in correct Building Rental budget lines for Butterfield Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:		
10677800 54383	Building Rental	23,808
10677400 54383 10185	Building Rental	<u>10,391</u>
		34,199

Increase:		
10677400 54383	Building Rental	27,658
10677900 54383	Building Rental	<u>6,541</u>
		34,199

2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2024 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6g – Approval/ Calling on the State of New York to Continue to Pass-Thru Federal Affordable Care Act Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage Funds was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Crowley and Nacerino, Legislator Sayegh moved the following:

Legislator Sayegh explained that Medicaid is one (1) of the unfunded mandates passed onto the County by the State of New York. She stated that counties have no say in what is covered or how the money is spent.

Legislator Gouldman explained that Governor Hochul’s proposal for the state to end the Affordable Care Act (ACA) enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (eFMAP) federal pass-thru to counties will require the 57 counties to spend at least \$280 million more, and approximately \$1 billion when New York City is included. He explained that Putnam County’s state-mandated burden of funding the nonfederal Medicaid will be approximately \$2.3 million in 2024 and will only increase as time moves on. He stated that it is scheduled to grow by 30% by 2027. He questioned where Putnam County would get the money to cover these costs. He stated that the resolution opposing this is justified and is bipartisan throughout New York State. He stated that he will support this opposition and hoped that his colleagues would do the same.

Legislator Nacerino echoed Legislator Gouldman’s comments. She stated that she too would be supporting this resolution. She stated that Governor Hochul’s proposal would bear an undue burden on the taxpayers of Putnam County. She stated that as Medicare cases increase yearly, the proposal would also increase County expenditures. She urged the Governor to reconsider.

Legislator Sayegh mentioned three (3) points that NYSAC made on their website pertaining to this. She stated that it undermines the congressional intent of the eFMAP funding. She stated that on April 1, 2023, the Governor plans to pocket \$625 million in eFMAP funding for Medicaid that Congress intended the state to share with counties. She stated that it makes New York State less affordable in a time when New York is facing an affordability crisis every day. Homeowners in Putnam County will be expected and responsible to pay the increase in Medicaid funding in upwards of \$1.3 million. She stated that, according to NYSAC, this will make New York State less affordable by forcing local governments to increase property taxes by an estimated 5-10 percent, driving up the cost of homeownership and rent for all New Yorkers. She stated that these costs will

grow over time and result in more people leaving the State. She stated that the Governor's budget proposes to fully fund State reserves two (2) years ahead of schedule by depositing \$5.4 billion into these accounts before year end of 2023, while also projecting a general fund surplus of \$35 billion by the end of State fiscal year 2024. She stated that she will be voting in favor of this resolution and calling on the State of New York to continue the pass-thru of the Federal Affordable Care Act funds to the counties.

RESOLUTION #55

APPROVAL/ CALLING ON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO CONTINUE TO PASS-THRU FEDERAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ENHANCED FEDERAL MEDICAID ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE FUNDS

WHEREAS, the SFY 2024 State Budget proposal would end the Affordable Care Act (ACA) enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (eFMAP) federal pass-thru to counties and New York City; and

WHEREAS, New York State is proposing to keep all of these federal savings going forward and use them to cover further expansions of Medicaid eligibility and benefits and to increase payments to health care providers; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of this ACA eFMAP federal pass-thru will require the 57 counties to spend at least \$280 million more in SFY 2024, and approximately \$1 billion when New York City is included; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of this ACA eFMAP federal pass-thru will increase Putnam County's state-mandated burden of funding the nonfederal Medicaid match by approximately \$1.3 million in 2024; and

WHEREAS, the SFY 2024 costs to counties and New York City are scheduled to grow by 30 percent by SFY 2027; and

WHEREAS, it is the strong view of Putnam County that Congress intended these federal savings to be shared with counties proportional to the amount they contributed toward the nonfederal Medicaid match; and

WHEREAS, based on an analysis by NYSAC, since 2003, New York State has shared the funds proportionally during periods when an enhanced federal Medicaid match was enacted by Congress; and

WHEREAS, enacted in 2011, the Medicaid statutory cap for all 62 counties is \$7.6 billion; the Medicaid statutory cap for the 57 counties outside of New York City is \$2.25 billion; and

WHEREAS, starting in SFY 2014, New York began sharing these federal ACA savings directly with counties. The savings for a year were provided by lowering the weekly payments each county and NYC make to the state to support the State's Medicaid program. Through February 1, 2023, New York State continues to share the federal savings from the ACA eFMAP with the 57 counties and NYC; and

WHEREAS, counties strongly disagree with the need to cut county funding so deeply when the Governor's budget proposes to fully fund its own reserves two years ahead of schedule, depositing \$5.4 billion into reserves before the end of SFY 2023, while also projecting a general fund surplus of \$35 billion by the end of SFY 2024; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature calls on New York State to continue to share these federal funds with counties as has been the precedent for over 20 years; and be further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Putnam County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to the Governor of the State of New York, the New York State

Legislature, the New York State Congressional Delegation, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
(Chairman Gouldman, Legislators Castellano & Montgomery)

Item #6h – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (22A089)/ Finance/ Stoneleigh Drewville Intersection Project was next. Chairman Jonke recognized Legislator Castellano, member of the Physical Services Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Montgomery, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

RESOLUTION #56

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (22A089)/ FINANCE/ STONELEIGH DREWVILLE INTERSECTION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (22A089) to adjust the Capital Budget for the Stoneleigh/Drewville Intersection Project to include Supplemental Agreement #2 from the New York State Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

CAPITAL FUND:

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:

55197000 53000 51716	Stoneleigh/Drewville Rd Int – PIN 8761.97	100,000
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

05000 45710K 51716	Bond Proceeds – 2020	135,000
55197000 435971 51716	State Aid – PIN 8761.97	288,900
55197000 449898 51716	Fed Aid – ARPA – PIN 8761.97	<u>26,300</u>
		450,200

Decrease Estimated Revenues:

05000 45710H 51716	Bond Proceeds – 2017	65,000
05000 45710N 51716	Bond Proceeds – 2023	405,200
55197000 445971 51716	Fed Aid – PIN 8761.97	<u>80,000</u>
		550,200

2022 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6i – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (22A090)/ Finance/ Drewville Road Bridge Replacement Project was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services

Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Montgomery, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

RESOLUTION #57

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (22A090)/ FINANCE/ DREWVILLE ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (22A090) to adjust the Capital Budget for the Drewville Road Bridge Replacement Project to include Supplemental Agreement #2 from the New York State Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

CAPITAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Revenues:

55197000 435971 51912	State Aid – PIN 8757.65 Drewville Bridge	798,000
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Decrease Estimated Revenues:

55197000 449898 51912	Fed Aid – PIN 8761.97 Drewville Br – ARPA	798,000
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2022 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6j – Approval/ Re-appointment/ Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Montgomery, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery thanked Brian for his service on the Soil & Water Conservation Board. She stated that he has been a great resource to the Town of Philipstown and a great steward to the land.

RESOLUTION #58

APPROVAL/ RE-APPOINTMENT/ PUTNAM COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD

RESOLVED, that the following be re-appointed to the Putnam Count Soil & Water Conservation District Board:

Brian Bergen, Town of Putnam Valley, Farmer Representative, for a three (3) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2025.

And be it further

RESOLVED, that this appointment comply with any requirements to file an Oath of Office pursuant to the New York State Public Officers Law.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**AUDIT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
(Chairman Castellano, Legislators Ellner & Gouldman)**

Item #6k – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (22A091)/ Commissioner of Finance/ Year End Journal Entry #2 was next. Chairman Jonke recognized Legislator Castellano, Chairman of the Audit & Administration Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

RESOLUTION #59

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (22A091)/ COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE/ YEAR END JOURNAL ENTRY #2

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (22A091) for the second Year End Journal Entry for the year ending December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, further entry(s) will follow as more information becomes available during the year end closing process; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

GENERAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 354,722.00

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 354,722.00

ROAD FUND:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 1,596.00

Increase Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 1,596.00

CAPITAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 134,308.08

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 276,118.11

Increase Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 895,136.26

Decrease Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 1,036,946.29

DEBT SERVICE FUND:

**Increase Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET**

49,571.82

**Decrease Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET**

49,571.82

**2022 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –**

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6L – Approval/ Refund of Taxes/ Ronald Nault/ Town of Carmel Tax Map #54.8-1-88.1, #54.8-1-55.2 & #54.8-1-55.3 was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

RESOLUTION #60

APPROVAL/ REFUND OF TAXES/ RONALD NAULT/ TOWN OF CARMEL TAX MAP #54.8-1-88.1, #54.8-1-55.2 & #54.8-1-55.3

WHEREAS, Ronald Nault has requested a tax refund of \$2,815.22 for Tax Map #54.8-1-88.1, #54.8-1-55.2 & #54.8-1-55.3 in the Town of Carmel; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property Tax Services Agency, the Commissioner of Finance, the Department of Law, the County Executive and the County Auditor have reviewed and approve said tax refund; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved said tax refund; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves the application for refund of taxes by Ronald Nault for Tax Map #54.8-1-88.1, #54.8-1-55.2 & #54.8-1-55.3 in the Town of Carmel in the amount of \$2,815.22.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6m – Approval/ Town of Putnam Valley American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) & Sales Tax Funding Reallocation was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

Legislator Castellano explained that this was a request from the Town of Putnam Valley to reappropriate the ARPA and Sales Tax Funding from the County toward other projects than previously approved.

Legislator Gouldman explained that the Town of Putnam Valley has requested to reappropriate the ARPA and Sales Tax Funding they are receiving from the County towards two (2) projects. He stated that one (1) project the reduction of phosphorous in the watershed area which involves drainage repair from Hiawatha and Wenonah Road, and Oscawana Lake Road. He stated that the estimated cost of the project is \$483,120.

He stated that the second project pertains to the plan to replace the Bell Hollow Bridge. He stated that the estimated cost for this project at this time is \$1,290,445.43. He stated that the reappropriation of the ARPA and Sales Tax Funding from the County would greatly alleviate and offset the costs of these to necessary projects. He stated that he hoped that his colleagues on the Legislature would support him on this request.

RESOLUTION #61

APPROVAL/TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) & SALES TAX FUNDING REALLOCATION

WHEREAS, the Town of Putnam Valley was allocated a total of \$ 1,204,284 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and sales tax funding pursuant to Resolutions # 133 & # 134 of 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Putnam Valley has requested that the use of these funds originally approved for a water & sewer project pursuant to Resolutions #133 & #134 of 2022 be modified to provide that the ARPA funding of \$ 602,142 be reallocated to the Wenonah Road Stormwater Project and that the sales tax funding of \$ 602,142 be reallocated to the Bell Hollow Bridge Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, the County consultant has indicated that the Wenonah Road Stormwater Project is an allowable use of ARPA funds; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Executive, the Commissioner of Finance, and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved of this request; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Putnam County Legislature approves and authorizes the Town of Putnam Valley ARPA funding of \$ 602,142 originally allocated pursuant to Resolution # 133 of 2022 is hereby authorized to be expended on the Wenonah Road Stormwater Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Putnam County Legislature approves and authorizes that the Town of Putnam Valley sales tax funding of \$ 602,142 originally allocated pursuant to Resolution # 134 of 2022 is hereby authorized to be expended on the Bell Hollow Bridge Replacement Project.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6n – Approval/ Authorization/ County Auditor to Attend March New York Government Finance Officers’ Association Annual Conference was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Castellano moved the following:

RESOLUTION #62

APPROVAL/ AUTHORIZATION/ COUNTY AUDITOR TO ATTEND MARCH NEW YORK GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the County Auditor has requested permission to attend the New York Government Finance Officers’ Association Conference to be held in Albany, New York in March 2023 for registration and lodging total expenditure of approximately \$515 per person; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved this request; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature authorizes the County Auditor to attend the New York Government Finance Officers' Association Conference to be held in Albany, New York in March 2023.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #7 – Other Business

Item #7a - Approval/ Appointment/ Budget & Finance Committee Representative / Capital Projects Committee (Tabled from Org. Mtg.) was next. Chairman Jonke made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Crowley.

RESOLUTION #63

APPOINTMENT/ BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE/ CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, County Charter § 7.05 (B)(3) provides that there shall be a Capital Projects Committee consisting of various members including a designee of the Budget and Finance Committee; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that William Gouldman be appointed as Budget & Finance Committee Representative to the County's Capital Projects Committee for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2023.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #8 - Recognition of Public on Agenda Items

Putnam Valley Supervisor Jacqueline Annabi thanked the Legislature for approving the reallocation of funding for the Town of Putnam Valley.

Item #9 - Recognition of Legislators

Legislator Gouldman informed the public of the Putnam County Health Department's free Rabies Clinic scheduled from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at Veteran's Memorial Park. He stated that Putnam County's Annual Tree and Shrub Seedling Sale is currently taking place on Cornell Cooperative Extension's website. Orders will be accepted until Friday, March 24, 2023. He reminded everyone that the County Executive will be presenting the 2023 State of the County to the Legislature at a Special Meeting of the Putnam County Legislature, on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the Putnam County Historic Courthouse.

Legislator Sayegh stated that March is the beginning of Women's History Month. She stated that one (1) woman right here in Putnam County was a hero, Sybil Ludington. She stated that from Pioneer women to the women of today, America has been home to some of the most innovative women in modern history, though many go unrecognized for their actions. She stated detailed how on April 26, 1777, Sybil Ludington, the 16-year-old daughter of Colonel Henry Ludington, rode 40 miles all night during a rainstorm to warn her father that the British were planning to loot a stockpile of provisions meant for the Colonial army near Danbury, Connecticut. She stated that General George Washington thanked Sybil for her bravery. She stated that 158 years after Sybil's historic ride, in

1935, a statue was erected on shore of Lake Gleneida in Carmel, NY in honor of her bravery and patriotism. She stated that women work hard and do their best for the good of our communities, trying to make the world a better place to raise our children and grandchildren. She encouraged others to stop and recognize other women who might be overlooked, remembering the achievements and accomplishments of women in history, many of whom lived right here in Putnam County.

Legislator Montgomery stated that as spring is approaching, she sees many businesses in her community preparing for tourism and recreation. She stated that Holtec International, the company responsible for decommissioning Indian Point, has announced their intention to release radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River. She stated that the National Academy of Science has indicated that there is no verifiable safe level of these isotopes when they are ingested or inhaled. She stated that there are seven (7) neighboring communities to Putnam County that rely on the Hudson for drinking water. She stated that the Hudson River is a major recreational area for the district she represents. She was hoping she could encourage the Chairwoman of the Health Committee to consider the resolution she previously provided. She encouraged the public and elected officials to write to the NYS Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to stop this release of wastewater.

Legislator Ellner stated that this is an unfortunate situation when the long-range unintended consequences are not considered. He stated that we now have to choose the lesser of two (2) evils with the decommissioning of the power plant. Unfortunately, the only people that have purview to this is the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission. He believed Indian Point was one (1) of the safest power plants in the country and one (1) of the only analog controlled plants that could not be hacked. He believed there was a need for real consideration in planning the shutdown, unfortunately, no matter what we do this evening it will fall on deaf ears because it is the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission that has total control over what is going to happen.

There being no further business, at 7:47 P.M., Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.