

**Budget  
Physical Services Committee Meeting  
Held in Room #318  
Putnam County Office Building  
Members: Chairman Albano & Legislators Nacerino and Scuccimarra**

**Wednesday**

**October 8, 2014**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m. by Chairman Albano. Chairman Albano requested that Legislator Gross lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Albano and Legislators Nacerino and Scuccimarra were present.**

**Item #3) 2015 Budget Review**

**Highways & Facilities (page 25):**

Chair Albano questioned what is included in the title of Highways & Facilities - Special Services (#10149000 54682" page 25) of the Revenue/Expense portion of budget.

Commissioner Pena stated that is funding for Engineering Services. He stated that this funding allows the flexibility to reach out to an outside service if needed. He stated that the County is working to develop the Engineering Department to possess well rounded staff of professionals with varied capabilities.

Legislator LoBue questioned if Commissioner Pena anticipates going over the \$60,000 that is the tentative funded amount for 2015 Highways & Facilities - Special Services (#10149000 54682" page 25).

Commissioner Pena stated that currently the County is short two (2) Engineers. He stated that they have been using vacancy funds to fill the gap. He stated they are using outside Consulting Services to fill that Engineering gap. He stated that the hope is once the two (2) Engineering Positions are filled permanently there will no longer be a need for the outside support.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the person who works in the Highways and Facilities Department, is she an employee of C& S in Schenectady, New York and is she paid as a consultant.

Commissioner Pena stated yes. He stated that she is running the County's Federally Funded projects.

Legislator LoBue stated that she would like a breakdown of the 2014 Revised Budget of \$263,060.29 under Highways & Facilities – Administration – Special Services (#10149000 54682 page 25). She stated that she finds this confusing that the C&S Consultant, who works part-time, has a Putnam County e-mail address.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that she would like to see the C&S Consultant come on board as a County employee. She stated that she has worked with her on some projects. She stated that the Consultant is very knowledgeable.

**Veteran's Home (page 124):**

Legislator LoBue questioned why the Heating Oil line was zeroed out in the Veterans Home budget (#10651100 54354 page 124).

Chair Albano facilitated discussion pertaining to the inquiry.

Commissioner Pena stated that he will look into the matter and get back to the Legislature. He stated that heating oil is still being used at the Veterans Home.

Legislator Nacerino requested a status on the drinking water situation at the Veterans Home.

Commissioner Pena explained that they are still researching this matter. He stated at this time there is no conclusion or answers, therefore that is why there is a request for funding for Bottled Water for 2015 (#10651100 54321 page 124).

**Putnam Golf (page 138):**

Legislator Oliverio requested a breakdown of the projected 2015 Putnam National Income \$2,231,319.00 (10085000 420031 page 138). He stated that he would like to see the Catering projections separate from the Golf projections. He stated in his opinion they are two (2) separate businesses.

Legislator LoBue stated that the last time Putnam Golf General Manager McCall attended a meeting she requested a copy of all of the Catering Contracts. She questioned if Commissioner Carlin had a copy of them. She stated that she is looking for the 2013 and 2014 Catering Contracts.

Commissioner Carlin stated that he does not have them. He stated that he will contact Putnam Golf General Manager McCall and get a copy of the Catering Contracts.

**Tilly Foster Farm (page 138):**

Legislator Oliverio questioned under Tilly Foster – Contracts (#1008400 54646 page 138) there is no funding for that line for 2015.

Commissioner Carlin stated that originally it was envisioned that outsiders would be used to run the farm, but instead the County decided to run the farm in-house.

Legislator Oliverio stated that under Tilly Foster- Rent (#10084000 412902 page 138) there is a projection of \$43,000 in the 2015 Tentative Budget line. He stated that currently he is only aware of one (1) Rental Agreement that is being settled.

Commissioner Pena stated that the projection is based on the one (1) Rental and the anticipated partnership with BOCES.

Legislator LoBue questioned where the income is for 2013 for the Community Gardens.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is under Highways Parks and Recs - Community Gardens (#10711000 420015 page 138). He stated that next year, for the 2016 Budget, it will be listed under the Tilly Foster Budget Revenue and Expense section.

**Parks & Rec. (page 138-139):**

Chair Albano stated that the Committee has been asked to approve moving \$15,000 from Park Maintenance to the Sub- contingency Maintenance & Repair budget line.

Chair Albano made a motion to move Park Maintenance (#10711000 54710) \$15,000 to Subcontingency Maintenance & Repair (#10199000 54985); Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Chair Albano facilitated some discussion on the reasoning for moving the \$15,000 to the Subcontingency Line.

Commissioner Carlin recommended leaving some of the \$15,000 in the Park Maintenance line.

Legislative Auditor Sharkey stated that action can be taken on January 2, 2015. She stated that the Chairperson of Physical Services could sign off on a Fund Transfer, as long as the amount is under \$10,000.

**Putnam Golf (page 138):**

Legislator Oliverio stated that he has concern with the increase in the 2015 expenses under the Putnam Golf - Contracts line (#10085000 54646 page 138).

Deputy County Commissioner Tully stated that the increase in expense is in correlation to the increase in the projected revenue for the Golf Course (#10085000 420031 page 138).

Legislator Oliverio concluded the discussion by requesting a copy of the breakdown that would support the expense increase in the Contracts budget line for the Putnam Golf (#10085000 54646 page 138).

Commissioner Carlin stated that he would provide that information to the Legislature.

**Planning & Dev. (pages 149-150)**

Legislator LoBue questioned under Planning Department - Heating Oil (#1080200 54354 page 149) the actual for 2013 was \$42,299.55, the 2014 adopted amount was \$45,000 and the 2015 Tentative is \$70,000. She stated that appears to be a large increase.

Commissioner Pena stated that he would have to look into that.

Transportation Manager Tamagna stated that this year, he believes the funding ran short. He stated that they recently had to get an oil delivery and they did not have enough money to pay

for the delivery. He stated that he believes that is the reasoning behind the increase for 2015 budgeting amount.

Legislator LoBue questioned in the Planning Department- Temporary Line (#1080200 51094 page 149), in 2014 there was no funding in the line; in the 2015 Requested and Budgeted there is \$20,000.

Transportation Manager Tamagna stated that they had a very talented Intern in their Department this year. He stated that the Planning Department would like to have funding in 2015 to pay for this Intern to do work for them during 2015. He stated that this particular Intern as a result of the work he did in the Planning Department saved the County a lot of money.

**Part Bus System (page 177):**

Legislator LoBue questioned the increase in the Transportation PART Bus System – Printing and Forms (#95630000 54311 page 177).

Transportation Manager Tamagna stated that they have received a great deal of feedback that the current bus schedules need to be updated. He stated the current schedules have not been updated since 2011; that year is printed on the current schedules. He stated that they are in dire need of updating and reprinting. He stated that his goal is to make the schedules easier to interpret. He stated that would be in response to feedback received that the current format is not clear.

Legislator LoBue questioned what the Transportation PART Bus System - Special Services (#95630000 54682 page 177) \$60,000 is for.

Transportation Manager Tamagna stated that is funding to pay for a combination of things. He stated the Veterans Transportation and the Consultant, Jack Reilly, is paid out of that line. He stated that they anticipate using his expertise in 2015 to assist in the redesign of the Routes. He stated that they are moving slowly on this next venture, but see great value in getting it up and operating, working to bring I/T Services into the Transportation mix. He stated for example, provide notification to parents regarding their child's school bus in times of a snow storm. He stated that it is a services being provided currently by the MV Transportation Company.

Legislator LoBue stated that in 2014 for the Putnam Moves – Advertising –Buses line (#95630000 417892 1011 page 177) there was \$25,000 budgeted as revenue; 2015 there is \$100,000 budgeted revenue.

Transportation Manager Tamagna stated that is correct. He stated that he believes that is a very conservative number. He stated there is ad space that has already been sold. He stated that each bus could generate up to \$50,000 in revenue in advertising space. He stated that there are ten (10) buses.

Legislator Oliverio questioned how long would an ad stay up on the bus.

Transportation Manager Tamagna stated an ad would be posted on the bus for one (1) year.

Commissioner Carlin stated that they had the annual Capital Projects Meeting (*August 19, 2014*). He stated that everything went through as voted in. He stated that they moved the Office For Senior Resources (OSR) Buses to the Capital Projects from the Operating Budget.

Legislator Gross requested information on the Veterans Museum.

Commissioner Pena stated that there is an expansion project and they are looking to build a gatehouse and creating a proper entrance to the park. He stated that the plan is for them to build it in-house, he stated that they have a site plan.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he would recommend having the students in the BOCES project build it.

Legislator Tartaro stated that the gatehouse he believes is historical.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the gatehouse could be relocated somewhere else on the property to preserve it.

Commissioner Pena stated they have considered that and there has been an Eagle Scout that has reached out and would be interested in volunteering.

Legislator Gross questioned if security will be put into the Veteran Museum while working on the expansion. He stated that there was some vandalism there a few years back. He stated that he knows that there are some valuable items that could be brought into the museum, but the lack of security is a concern.

Commissioner Pena stated currently I/T is working with the Highways and Facilities Department to increase security in all of the County facilities. He stated that the Veterans Museum could be looked at as a separate program.

Legislator Gross stated that there are historic markers throughout the County; Sybil Ludington for example, some are in horrible condition.

Legislator Scuccimarra recommended contacting Tourism Director Libby Pataki. She stated that Director Pataki, years back, worked on those historic markers in Garrison.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the two (2) buses that are budgeted for in the Capital Projects, are they going to be the buses that can accommodate wheelchairs.

Commissioner Carlin stated that he believes so.

Legislator LoBue questioned what is the \$500,000 going to be used for that is in the Capital Projects line for the Highway Department.

Commissioner Pena stated that funding is to purchase two (2) Trucks.

Ann Fanizzi, Resident, requested a copy of the Personnel section of the Tentative 2015 Budget, she stated that it is not on-line. She stated that she was able to print from the County Web-site the Revenue and Expenses.

Commissioner Carlin stated that he will look into that.

**Item #5) Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 7:05P.M., Chair Albano made a motion to adjourn;  
Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Trabulsy, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature.