

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

Tuesday                      January 5, 2016                      7:00 P.M.

---

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by County Clerk Michael Bartolotti who requested that Board of Election Commissioner, Anthony Scannapieco lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. County Clerk Bartolotti then requested Legislator Wright to lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Scuccimarra, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Albano, Gross, Castellano, LoBue and Wright were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Van Ross.

Item #4 – Appointment/Chair/Putnam County Legislature was called first. County Clerk Bartolotti requested nominations from the floor for Chair of the Legislature.

Legislator Gouldman made a motion to nominate Legislator Nacerino as Chair; seconded by Legislators Scuccimarra and Wright.

Legislator Gouldman stated that Legislator Nacerino possesses the character traits and qualities to be a true leader. He stated that she served as Deputy Chairwoman of the Putnam County Legislature for the last two (2) years, has been a Legislator for the last three (3) years, has served on the Patterson Town Board for seven (7) years and was on the Patterson Zoning Board of Appeals for six (6) years. He stated that Legislator Nacerino has been a trusted and steady presence and the voice of moderation and reason which he believed were qualities needed for this position.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that Legislator Nacerino displays a common sense approach when dealing with issues. She stated that, as we don't always agree on all issues, she respected her totally and believed she would make an excellent Chairwoman.

**RESOLUTION #1**

**APPOINTMENT/CHAIR/PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino be appointed to the position of Chair of the Putnam County Legislature, with all the rights, privileges and duties of the office as set forth in the Putnam County Charter as permitted by law for a period ending December 31, 2016.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR GROSS. MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #5 – Appointment/Deputy Chair/Putnam County Legislature was next.

Legislator Albano made a motion to nominate Legislator Castellano as Deputy Chair; seconded by Chairwoman Nacerino.

Legislator Albano stated that Legislator Castellano is an extremely devoted Legislator. He stated that he has consistently voted with common sense and has always applied careful consideration and logic to his decisions. He stated that he has one of the highest attendance records at Committee meetings and County events, which confirms how seriously he takes his position as a Putnam County Legislator.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that Legislator Castellano is calm, pensive and always gives careful consideration before casting his vote on items. She stated that he is a great colleague, a good listener and always has the best interest of the people of Putnam County in mind.

Chairman Nacerino requested a roll call vote on the nomination.

#### **RESOLUTION #2**

#### **APPOINTMENT/DEPUTY CHAIR/PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**RESOLVED**, that Joseph Castellano be appointed to the position of Deputy Chair of the Putnam County Legislature, with all the rights privileges and duties of the office as set forth in the Putnam County Charter, as permitted by law for a period ending December 31, 2016.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR GROSS. MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #6 – Re-Appointment/County Auditor was called next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

#### **RESOLUTION #3**

#### **RE-APPOINTMENT/COUNTY AUDITOR**

**RESOLVED**, that Michele Alfano-Sharkey be re-appointed to the position of County Auditor, with all the rights, privileges and duties of the Office as set forth in the Putnam County Charter, as permitted by law for a three-year term period ending December 31, 2018.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Item #7 – Re-Appointment/Legislative Clerk was called next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislators Gross and Gouldman.

#### **RESOLUTION #4**

#### **RE-APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE CLERK**

**RESOLVED**, that Diane Schonfeld be re-appointed to the position of Legislative Clerk, with all the rights, privileges and duties of the Office as set forth in the Putnam

County Charter, as permitted by law for a term ending December 31, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any and all prior acts performed by the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby ratified and confirmed.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #8 – Adoption of Legislative Manual was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.

**RESOLUTION #5**

**ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE MANUAL**

WHEREAS, Section 2, Sub-division B(e) of the Legislative Manual requires that the Legislature adopt annually its Legislative Manual, including any amendments incorporated therein; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature adopts the annexed Legislative Manual for the year 2016.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #9 – Adoption of Legislative Calendar was next. Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Gouldman.

**RESOLUTION #6**

**ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

WHEREAS, the Legislative Manual for the Legislature of the County of Putnam provides that annually the Legislative Calendar shall be adopted and promulgated by the Clerk of the Legislature, that the Legislature meets on the first Tuesday of each and every month thereof, except where noted; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following schedule be adopted as to Regular Meeting dates of the Putnam County Legislature for the year 2016:

Tuesday	January 5, 2016
Wednesday	February 3, 2016
Tuesday	March 1, 2016
Tuesday	April 5, 2016
Tuesday	May 3, 2016
Tuesday	June 7, 2016
Tuesday	July 5, 2016
Tuesday	August 2, 2016
Tuesday	September 6, 2016
Tuesday	October 4, 2016
Tuesday	November 1, 2016
Tuesday	December 6, 2016

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #10 – Designation of Official Newspaper was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator LoBue.**

**RESOLUTION #7**

**DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

**RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2.04 (k) of the Putnam County Charter, the following newspaper, to wit:**

**Putnam County Press**

**is hereby designated as an official newspaper of the County of Putnam for the publication of all concurrent resolutions, election notices, official canvasses, enactments and other matters required by law to be published for the year 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #11 – Designation of Official Newspaper was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislators Albano and Gouldman.**

**Legislator Gross stated that, we as elected officials are always open to criticism. However he stated that several months ago the Putnam County Courier and Putnam County News & Recorder printed a nasty, tasteless and unprofessional article about one of our colleagues in the Legislature. He believed that the criticism was beyond being unethical journalism. He stated that it is the fiscal responsibility of the Legislators to ask questions about County expenses. He stated that the public needed to know what their taxpayer dollars are being spent on. He stated that the chief reporter of the papers in question, Eric Gross, is the pinnacle integrity. He stated that for that reason alone he would abstain from this vote instead of voting “no.”**

**Legislator Wright stated that he concurred with everything Legislator Gross said regarding the necessity for Legislative inquiry and there ought to be no question that goes unanswered. He stated that if it’s of concern to any Legislator, then proper answer to that question should be of concern to every Legislator. However, he stated that journalism in this Country for a long time has been premised on its bifurcated roll. He stated that a newspaper is entitled to have an editorial point of view. He stated that a newspaper is also required to do its job in delivering news and information in a factual way. He stated that our purpose at hand is to deliver important County information and therefore believe we should support this newspaper for its ability to deliver that information to a large spread audience.**

**RESOLUTION #8**

**DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

**RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2.04 (k) of the Putnam County Charter, the following newspaper, to wit:**

**Putnam County Courier**

**is hereby designated as an official newspaper of the County of Putnam for the publication of all concurrent resolutions, election notices, official canvasses, enactments and other matters required by law to be published for the year 2016.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR LOBUE. ONE ABSTENTION – LEGISLATOR GROSS. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #12 – Designation of Official Newspaper was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.**

**RESOLUTION #9**

**DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

**RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2.04 (k) of the Putnam County Charter, the following newspaper, to wit:**

**Putnam County News & Recorder**

**is hereby designated as an official newspaper of the County of Putnam for the publication of all concurrent resolutions, election notices, official canvasses, enactments and other matters required by law to be published for the year 2016.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR LOBUE. ONE ABSTENTION – LEGISLATOR GROSS. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #13 – Permission for Legislature to Attend Conferences, Seminars & Official Business for the County was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.**

**RESOLUTION #10**

**PERMISSION FOR LEGISLATURE TO ATTEND CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE COUNTY**

**RESOLVED, that Legislators and Legislative Staff be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred while attending conferences, seminars and official business of the County for the year 2016 for any such event costing under \$200.00. Any such event costing over \$200.00 will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Legislature.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #14 – Authorization for County Auditor to Approve Erroneous Assessments Under \$2,500 was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.**

**RESOLUTION #11**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY AUDITOR TO APPROVE ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS UNDER \$2,500**

**WHEREAS, Chapter 515 of the Laws of 1997 authorizes a tax levying body, by resolution, to delegate to an official who is empowered to authorize the payment of bills without prior audit by such board, the authority to perform the duties of the tax levying body as specified in Section 556(8) of the Real Property Tax Law; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the County Legislature hereby delegates to the County Auditor the authority to review and approve applications for refunds of taxes due to erroneous assessments, whether by clerical error or unlawful entry, and where the recommended refund is \$2,500 or less; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that pursuant to statute, this authority shall expire on December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #15 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Cooperative Extension Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislators Wright and Albano.**

**RESOLUTION #12**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/COOPERATIVE EXTENSION BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Toni Addonizio be appointed as the Legislative Representative to the Cooperative Extension Board for a period of one year, said term to expire on December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #16 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Jury Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislators LoBue and Addonizio.**

**RESOLUTION #13**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/JURY BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Roger Gross be appointed Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Jury Board for a period of one year, said term to expire on December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #17 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Region 3 Forest Practice Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.**

**RESOLUTION #14**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/REGION 3 FOREST PRACTICE BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Barbara Scuccimarra be appointed Legislative Representative to the Region 3 Forest Practice Board for a period of one year, said term to expire on December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #18 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.**

**RESOLUTION #15**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/PUTNAM COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that William Gouldman and Barbara Scuccimarra be appointed Legislative Representatives to the Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board for a one year term, said term to expire December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #19 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Records Management Board was next. Legislator Scuccimarra moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.**

**RESOLUTION #16**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/RECORDS MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino be appointed Legislative Representative to the Records Management Board for a one year period, said term to expire December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #20 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Board of Health was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.**

**RESOLUTION #17**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**RESOLVED**, that Barbara Scuccimarra be appointed as Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Board of Health for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2016; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Carl L. Albano will serve as an Alternate to the Putnam County Board of Health for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2016.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #21 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Putnam County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Gross.**

**RESOLUTION #18**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/PUTNAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD**

**RESOLVED**, that Dini LoBue be appointed as the Legislative Representative to the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board for a period of one year, said term to expire on December 31, 2016.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #22 – Appointment/Putnam County Representative/Catskill Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.**

**RESOLUTION #19**

**APPOINTMENT/PUTNAM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE/CATSKILL REGIONAL OFF-TRACK BETTING CORPORATION BOARD**

**RESOLVED**, that Vincent Tamagna be appointed as the Putnam County representative to the Catskill Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation Board, for a one year term, said term to expire on December 31, 2016.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #23 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Fish & Wildlife Management Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.**

**RESOLUTION #20**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that William Gouldman be appointed as Legislative Representative on the Fish and Wildlife Management Board, for a one- year term to expire on December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #24 – Appointment/Law Library Board was next. Legislator Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Wright.**

**RESOLUTION #21**

**APPOINTMENT/LAW LIBRARY BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino be appointed to the Law Library Board for a one (1) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2016; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Dini LoBue shall serve as an Alternate to the Law Library Board for a one (1) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #25 - Appointment/Legislative Liaison/Veterans Affairs was next. Legislator Scuccimarra moved the following; seconded by Legislator Wright.**

**RESOLUTION #22**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE LIAISON/VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**RESOLVED, that Roger Gross be appointed Legislative Liaison for Veterans Affairs for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2016; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino shall serve as an Alternate as Legislative Liaison for Veterans Affairs for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #26 – Appointment/Jail Physician was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislators Gross and LoBue.**

**RESOLUTION #23**

**APPOINTMENT/JAIL PHYSICIAN**

**RESOLVED, that Michael Nesheiwat be appointed Jail Physician for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #27 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Fire Advisory Board was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.**

**RESOLUTION #24**

**APPOINTMENT/LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/PUTNAM COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Dini LoBue be appointed as Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Fire Advisory Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2016; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Carl L. Albano will serve as an Alternate to the Putnam County Fire Advisory Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #28 – Approval/Authorization/Legislators to Attend February New York State Association of Counties Conference was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following; seconded by Legislators Gross and LoBue.**

**RESOLUTION #25**

**APPROVAL/AUTHORIZATION/LEGISLATORS TO ATTEND FEBRUARY NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS, six Legislators and Legislative Counsel have requested permission to attend the New York State Association of Counties Conference to be held in Albany, New York in February 2016 for registration and lodging total expenditure of approximately \$697 per person; and**

**WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has reviewed and approves their requests; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that six Legislators and Legislative Counsel are authorized to attend the New York State Association of Counties Conference to be held in Albany, New York in February 2016.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #29 – Approval/Purchasing Department/Identifying Individuals Responsible for Purchasing (approved at December Audit Mtg) was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following on behalf of the Audit & Administration Committee.**

**RESOLUTION #26**

**APPROVAL/PURCHASING DEPARTMENT/IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING**

WHEREAS, Section 140-1.5 of the Putnam County Code (Procurement Policy) requires the Legislature to annually identify the individuals responsible for purchasing and their respective titles; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature re-affirms the County's Procurement Policy as contained in Chapter 140 of the Putnam County Code and identifies the following individuals and their respective titles as the individuals responsible for purchasing:

- a. Alessandro Mazzotta, Director of Purchasing
- b. Cynthia Ann Jaffre, Principal Account Clerk
- c. Elizabeth Duffy-Rau, Project Coordinator
- d. Michele Pinto, Account Clerk

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #30 - Approval/Budgetary Transfer (16T001)/Commissioner of Finance/Board of Elections Office Manager Stipend (approved at December Personnel and Audit Mtg) was next. Chairwoman Nacerino moved the following on behalf of the Personnel Committee.

**RESOLUTION #27**

**APPROVAL/BUDGETARY TRANSFER /COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE/BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE MANAGER STIPEND**

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary transfer (16T001) to eliminate the Board of Election Office Manager Stipend as per Resolution #245 of 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approve said budgetary transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfer be made:

**Increase Estimated Appropriations:**

10199000 54980	Contingency	22,336
----------------	-------------	--------

**Decrease Estimated Appropriations:**

10145000 51000	Personnel Services	20,749
10145000 58002	FICA	<u>1,587</u>
		22,336

2016 Fiscal Impact (\$22,336)

2017 Fiscal Impact (\$22,336)

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #31 – Other Business.

There was no other business submitted to the meeting.

Item #32 – Recognition of Public

There were no members of the public that wished to speak.

Item #33 – Recognition of Legislators

**Legislator Gouldman welcomed new District Attorney, Robert Tendy and wished him luck in his new position.**

**Legislator Albano welcomed District Attorney Tendy and congratulated Dr. Michael Nesheiwat on his appointment. He stated that he enjoyed working with his colleagues the past two (2) years in his position as Chairman of the Legislature. He wished everyone a blessed New Year.**

**Chairwoman Nacerino thanked her colleagues for their support and confidence in her to serve as the Chair of the Legislature for 2016. She stated that she looked forward to working in a collaborative manner as we continue our work for the good people of Putnam County. Chairwoman Nacerino thanked Legislator Albano for serving as Legislative Chair for the last two (2) years. She stated that his leadership style was something she wished to emulate. She stated that he served with integrity and fairness. She stated that she looked forward to continuing to foster a culture of professionalism and collaboration with the utmost respect for each other's opinions, differences and perspectives. She wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year.**

**There being no further business, at 7:25 P.M., Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.**