

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

Tuesday

April 2, 2019

7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Chairman Castellano who requested that Legislator Albano lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Legislator Sayegh lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Albano, Jonke, Sayegh, Sullivan and Chairman Castellano were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Firriolo.

Chairman Castellano explained that there is a controversial topic on the agenda. He requested everyone to be respectful of one another. Please do not insult, disrupt or abuse anyone regarding their opinion.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Sayegh who presented the “Alcohol Awareness Month” proclamation to Michael Piazza – Commissioner of Social Services, Kristin McConnell – Executive Director of the Prevention Council of Putnam and Ellen Donaghey – Clinical Supervisor from St. Christopher’s Inn.

**ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States. One in every 12 adults (17.6 million people) suffer from alcohol abuse or dependence; and

**WHEREAS**, underage drinking presents an enormous public health issue and alcohol is the drug of choice among children and adolescents. Annually, approximately 5,000 youth under the age of 21 die from motor vehicle crashes, other unintentional injuries, homicides, and suicides that involve underage drinking; 100,000 persons die each year from alcohol-related causes: drinking and driving crashes, other accidents, falls, fires, alcohol-related homicides and suicides; and

**WHEREAS**, tragic health, social, and economic problems result from the use of alcohol by youth. Underage drinking is a causal factor in a host of serious problems, including traumatic injury, violent and property crime, high risk sex, fetal alcohol syndrome, alcohol poisoning, and need for treatment for alcohol abuse and dependence; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2018 Prevention Needs Assessment Survey reports that 42.9% of Putnam County youth grades 8-12 have used alcohol in their lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, young people who begin drinking before the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence and are two and half times more likely to become abusers of alcohol than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

**WHEREAS**, over 7 million children live in a household where at least one parent is dependent on or has abused alcohol; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol-related problems cost America \$224 billion in lost productivity, absenteeism, healthcare costs, crime, and family-related problems; and

**WHEREAS, the typical American will see 100,000 beer commercials before he or she turns 18; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim April 2019 as Alcohol Awareness Month and along with the Putnam Communities That Care Coalition and all substance abuse prevention and treatment providers in Putnam County encourage all residents to increase their awareness of alcohol use disorders, the dangers of alcohol abuse, the success of prevention and treatment programs, especially for our youth, and to support and encourage referrals for treatment of individuals when an alcohol use disorder is suspected or present.**

**Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Sayegh who presented the “Child Abuse Prevention” proclamation to Michael Piazza – Commissioner of Social Services, MaryBeth Ross – Safe Harbour Prevention & Community Outreach Coordinator of Social Services and Marla Behler – Program Coordinator Child Advocacy Center.**

#### **APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

**WHEREAS, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; and**

**WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs ensure the health of children and families, allowing children to grow into adults who prosper and contribute to society; and**

**WHEREAS, the Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County, the Department of Social Services Child Protective Services, Child Welfare Services, Legal Division, and Safe Harbour Putnam County are deeply committed to serving child abuse victims and their families with sensitivity, understanding, and compassion and providing services necessary to help healing begin; and**

**WHEREAS, the Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County, the Department of Social Services Child Protective Services, Child Welfare Services, Legal Division, and Safe Harbour Putnam County especially this month should be commended and recognized for working with schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement, and the business community to implement prevention programs to ensure the physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being of the children of Putnam County; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim April 2019 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Putnam County and call upon all citizens to increase their efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.**

**Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Albano who presented the “20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Child Advocacy Center” proclamation to Michael Piazza – Commissioner of Social Services, MaryBeth Ross – Safe Harbour Prevention & Community Outreach Coordinator of Social Services and Marla Behler – Program Coordinator Child Advocacy Center.**

#### **20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF PUTNAM COUNTY**

**WHEREAS, the Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County was established in 1999 to provide a coordinated response to child abuse allegations in a way that protects children and families; and**

**WHEREAS, the multidisciplinary team at the Child Advocacy Center made up of members from law enforcement, child protective services, mental health, prosecutors, medical providers, victim advocates and Child Advocacy Center staff provides crisis intervention and on-going support throughout the investigative and legal process; and**

**WHEREAS, the Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County's two-decade long partnerships with schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement, and the business community has successfully implemented innovative education and prevention programs to ensure the physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being of the children of Putnam County; and**

**WHEREAS, the Child Advocacy Center has served more than 4,000 children, providing services necessary to help healing begin; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby recognize the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County and the work of the multidisciplinary team in serving and supporting child victims of abuse and their families.**

**Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Sayegh who presented the "Healthy Teen Brain" proclamation to Kristin McConnell – Executive Director of the Prevention Council of Putnam.**

#### **APRIL 20, 2019 AS HEALTHY TEEN BRAIN DAY**

**WHEREAS, Our youth are our greatest joy and our hope for the future so it is necessary for us to support them in making safe and healthy decisions, while creating a supportive environment that safeguards their future; and**

**WHEREAS, Many of our youth are making very healthy and safe decisions to remain marijuana-free and providing leadership in their schools and communities to help other youth remain marijuana-free; and**

**WHEREAS, There is strong objective evidence that marijuana is harmful to the adolescent brain, with the potential to cause distorted perceptions, difficulty with thinking and problem solving, disrupted learning and memory, and impaired reaction time, attention span, judgment, balance and coordination; and**

**WHEREAS, It is with special pleasure that we join with the youth and adult leaders of the Putnam Communities That Care Coalition in celebrating the first "Healthy Teen Brain Day" to applaud and support our youth who are making healthy decisions; and**

**WHEREAS, On behalf of the citizens of Putnam County, we are pleased and proud to join all associated with the inception of "Healthy Teen Brain Day" and urge all citizens to acknowledge this very important day.**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim April 20, 2019 to be Healthy Teen Brain Day in Putnam County and proudly join my fellow residents in marking this very special occasion.**

**Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Montgomery who presented the "National Library Week" proclamation to Michele Capozzella – Executive Director of the Mahopac Public Library and the Directors from Libraries within Putnam County.**

## **NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK – APRIL 7 – 13, 2019**

**WHEREAS, libraries are the hearts and hubs of their communities, providing essential and valued resources, collections, and programs for all ages and demographics; and**

**WHEREAS, libraries are continually evolving to meet the needs of their communities by offering opportunities for lifelong learning through both traditional services and new technologies; and**

**WHEREAS, libraries provide gathering places for neighbors, friends, newcomers, and entrepreneurs so they can come together to share ideas and enrich their communities; and**

**WHEREAS, libraries employ trained, tech-savvy professionals who provide their communities with Internet access, technology training, and access to downloadable content like e-books and magazines; and**

**WHEREAS, libraries offer services such as job-seeking resources, homework help, storytimes, literacy classes, parenting workshops, and summer reading programs; and**

**WHEREAS, libraries value, promote, and practice sound sustainability measures that ensure economical services, conserve resources, reduce long-term energy costs, and protect the environment; and**

**WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, library staff, and library supporters across America are celebrating National Library Week; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim the week of April 7 – 13, 2019 as National Library Week. We encourage all county residents to visit their local libraries to take advantage of the wealth of library resources our libraries provide.**

**Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Jonke who presented the “National Telecommunicators’ Week” proclamation to Ken Clair – Commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services and Bureau of Emergency Services Dispatcher Christopher Langley.**

## **APRIL 14 – 20, 2019 AS NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATORS’ WEEK**

**WHEREAS, the Putnam County 911 Center answered 90,257 calls for help and dispatched Fire, EMS, and Police agencies 11,885 times during 2018; and**

**WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at any time that require police, fire, or emergency medical services; and**

**WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police officers, firefighters, and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and**

**WHEREAS, the safety of our police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Putnam 911 communications center; and**

**WHEREAS, Emergency Service Dispatchers are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and**

**WHEREAS, Emergency Service Dispatchers are the single vital link for our police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical services by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety; and**

**WHEREAS, Emergency Service Dispatchers of the Putnam 911 communications**

center have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients; and

WHEREAS, each dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim the week of April 14<sup>th</sup> through April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to be National Telecommunicators' Week in Putnam County, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our County and its citizens safe.

Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Addonizio who presented the "Peers Influence Peers" proclamation to Frank Reale – President of Peers Influence Peers Partnership.

#### APRIL 2019 AS PEERS INFLUENCE PEERS MONTH

WHEREAS, the use of alcohol and illegal drugs cause serious health, social, and educational problems for our young people; and one in four high school girls will suffer from an abusive relationship before they graduate; and

WHEREAS, it has been empirically proven that substance abuse is significantly involved in the three leading causes of death for young people – car crashes, homicides, and suicides – and is also a major factor in school dropouts, violence, and vandalism as well as HIV/AIDS, teenage pregnancy, rapes, and sexual assaults; and

WHEREAS, the recent upturns in drug and alcohol usage, as documented in state and national surveys, show that we must target effective prevention strategies at key population groups, such as middle and high school students; and

WHEREAS, the Peers Influence Peers Partnership has demonstrated a great deal of initiative and sophistication in developing proactive media messages against dating and domestic violence as well as alcohol and other drug use; and

WHEREAS, that work, which has been aired through numerous schools and cable TV systems throughout our state, has won praise from many authorities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby recognize April 2019 as Peers Influence Peers Month in hope that this declaration and a joint effort of all agencies and authorities to encourage young people to help others by encouraging them to live safe and healthy lives, may one day rid our children and their children's children of the scourge of drug and alcohol abuse.

Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Nacerino who presented the "Teen Driver Safety Awareness" proclamation to Putnam County Sheriff Robert L. Langley, Jr. and Peter Deandreaano from the Traffic Safety Board.

#### APRIL 2019 AS TEEN DRIVER SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS, statistics and experience demonstrate that the greatest danger to our youth in Putnam County, and throughout our country, are the dangers posed from traffic crashes; and**

**WHEREAS, highway crash statistics inform us that although teen drivers make up only 7% of the driving population, they comprise 18% of the injury related automobile crashes; and**

**WHEREAS, the leading cause of accidental deaths to our youthful population throughout the United States are automobile accidents; and**

**WHEREAS, analysis shows us that the reasons for teen overrepresentation in injury related automobile crashes include: driver inexperience, excessive speed, unnecessary risk taking, inattentive driving, and use of alcohol and drugs; and**

**WHEREAS, in Putnam County, we have too often experienced a tragedy with the death of a teen driver at the wheel. Many of these deaths have occurred during the spring and summer months with a high incidence rate during the period leading up to prom season; and**

**WHEREAS, all accidents are preventable and crash rates can be lowered through the use of education and awareness programs through the use of our school systems, law enforcement programs and youth services organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Junior RTC programs and the Civil Air Patrol, just to name a few; and**

**WHEREAS, these programs work best when there is a period set aside for local government at every level, our school districts and churches, synagogues, and youth service organizations coming together to provide these educational programs; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim April 2019 as Teen Driver Safety Awareness Month in Putnam County. We encourage all levels of government, our school districts, law enforcement, our churches and synagogues, our youth service organizations and all the citizens of Putnam County to support programs that promote teen driver safety awareness in Putnam County thereby protecting one of our most precious resources, our children and grandchildren.**

**Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Gouldman who presented the “Zachary Kuttruf” proclamation to Zachary Kuttruf.**

#### **HONORING ZACHARY KUTTRUF**

**WHEREAS, On the evening of January 23, 2019, Zachary Kuttruf, a 14 year old Putnam Valley resident, leapt into action and called upon his experience as a Sheriff’s Cadet and Boy Scout when he became aware that a nearby man had fallen through the ice on Lake Oscawana while riding his ATV; and**

**WHEREAS, Zachary flagged down the responding Sheriff’s Deputy, Jonathan Bradley, and led him to the location of fellow Putnam Valley resident Brendan Foran in Lake Oscawana. Meanwhile, Lake Oscawana community resident Johnathan Cummings, who has an emergency services background, also heard the commotion and came to lend his assistance; and**

**WHEREAS, Zachary’s parents, Bruce and Jennifer, rummaged their home looking for household objects to aid in the rescue when they discovered a lengthy extension cord. With Mr. Foran in the frigid water for about 10 minutes, Sheriff’s Deputy Bradley, Zachary, his parents Bruce and Jennifer, and Johnathan Cummings assembled a belay team to pull Mr. Foran from the lake by way of the extension cord; and**

**WHEREAS, Once on dry land, Mr. Foran was met by several other Sheriff's Deputies, the Putnam Valley Fire Department, the Mahopac Falls Volunteer Fire Department Dive Team, and a waiting ambulance to quickly transport him to a nearby hospital; and**

**WHEREAS, Due to the swift action and responsiveness of Zachary Kuttruf and his family, Deputy Bradley was able to quickly locate and facilitate the rescue of Brandon Foran from the icy waters of Lake Oscawana; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby recognize and publicly thank and congratulate Zachary Kuttruf for his compassion and response in coming to the rescue of a stranger in need.**

**Item #4 – Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – March 5, 2019  
Special Meeting – March 25, 2019**

**The minutes were approved as submitted.**

**Item #5 – Correspondence  
a) County Auditor**

**There was no activity during this reporting period.**

**Item #6 – Pre-filed resolutions:**

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
(Chairman Jonke, Legislators Nacerino & Sullivan)**

**Item #6a – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A023)/ Emergency Services/ 2018 State Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) Program was next. Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Jonke, Chairman of the Protective Services Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Nacerino and Sullivan, Legislator Jonke moved the following:**

**RESOLUTION #74**

**APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT / EMERGENCY SERVICES/ 2018 STATE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT (SICG) PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS, by Resolution #184 of 2018, the Putnam County Legislature approved and authorized the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services to apply for a grant under the 2018 State Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) Program; and**

**WHEREAS, the Bureau of Emergency Services has requested a budgetary amendment (19A023) to adjust the budget for the receipt of the 2018 SICG-Formula grant awarded through the New York State Homeland Security and Emergency Services in the amount of \$460,753; and**

**WHEREAS, this 2018 SICG-Formula Program concentrates on improving interoperability and operability of communications systems in New York State; and**

**WHEREAS, the performance period for this grant will be for 24 months, beginning calendar year 2019 (January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020), with the possibility of an extension; and**

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

**Increase Revenues:**

53097000 433971 51911	2018 SICG – Formula Grant	460,753
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**Increase Appropriations:**

53097000 53000 51911	State Aid – Public Safety Capital Exp	
	2018 SICG – Formula Grant	480,753

2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6b – Approval/Fund Transfer (19T032)/Sheriff’s Department/ Overtime was next. On behalf of the members of the Protective Services Committee, Legislators Nacerino and Sullivan, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

**RESOLUTION #75**

**APPROVAL/FUND TRANSFER /SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT/ OVERTIME**

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a fund transfer (19T032) to cover Overtime costs due to four (4) Correction Officer vacancies and one (1) Officer on 207C; and

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

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

**Decrease:**

10315000 51000 (10113)	Jail Personnel	6,791
10315000 51000 (10139)	Jail Personnel	4,414
10315000 51000 (10147)	Jail Personnel	4,414
10315000 51000 (10154)	Jail Personnel	<u>4,414</u>
		20,033

**Increase:**

10315000 51093	Jail Medical Overtime	20,033
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2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

(Chairwoman Nacerino, Legislators Jonke & Montgomery)

Item #6c – Approval/Budgetary Transfer (19T042)/Sheriff’s Department/ Two (2) Full Time Civilian Dispatchers Positions was next. Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Nacerino, Chairwoman of the Personnel Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Jonke and Montgomery, Legislator Nacerino moved the following:

Legislator Jonke commended the Sheriff for taking action to save taxpayer monies. This will allow the two (2) deputies who worked in the Communications Center to be placed back on the road patrol schedule.

Legislator Sullivan also acknowledged the Sheriff’s consolidation of services to reduce costs.

Legislator Sayegh explained that as a result of this there will be a potential savings of \$242,000 per year.

**RESOLUTION #76**

**APPROVAL/BUDGETARY TRANSFER /SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT/ TWO (2) FULL TIME CIVILIAN DISPATCHERS POSITIONS**

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a budgetary transfer (19T042) to hire two (2) Full Time Civilian Dispatchers in the Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, this would enable two (2) full time Deputy Sheriff’s to be placed back on the patrol schedule to fill vacancies on the monthly schedule; 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:**

13311000 51000 (113)	Pers Svcs – Emergency Svcs Dispatcher	32,185
13311000 51000 (114)	Pers Svcs – Emergency Svcs Dispatcher	32,185
13311000 58001	Retirement	8,213
13311000 58002	FICA	6,756
13311000 58004	Workers Compensation	1,410
13311000 58006	Dental	2,523
13311000 58008	Health	<u>30,401</u>
		113,673

**Decrease:**

17311000 51093	Overtime – Road Patrol	113,673
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2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6d – Approval/Budgetary Transfer (19T054)/ Commissioner of Finance/ Tilly Foster Farmer Position/ Subcontingency was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Jonke and Montgomery, Legislator Nacerino moved the following:

Chairman Castellano stated that there were great things being done at Tilly Foster Farm. He encouraged people to visit the property.

**RESOLUTION #77**

**APPROVAL/BUDGETARY TRANSFER / COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE/ TILLY FOSTER FARMER POSITION/ SUBCONTINGENCY**

WHEREAS, the County Executive included \$50,000 for a Farmer position in the proposed 2019 Budget; and

WHEREAS, by recommendation of the Personnel Committee, the Putnam County Legislature approved, by Resolution #235 of 2018, placing the \$50,000 for the proposed Farmer Position in subcontingency pending receipt and explanation of Highways & Facilities' five (5) year plan demonstrating the potential growth and utilization of the big fields on the Tilly Foster Farm property; and

WHEREAS, at the February 19, 2019 Physical Services Committee, Commissioner of Highways & Facilities, Fred Pena provided a presentation on the County's Tilly Foster Farm Five (5) Year Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Highways & Facilities Department has requested a budgetary transfer (19T054) to return the funds placed in subcontingency in the 2019 adopted budget to a contract line within the Parks Division to fund the farmer; 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:**

10711000 54646	Contracts	50,000
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**Decrease Estimated Appropriations:**

10199000 54982	Subcontingency	50,000
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2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

**HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE  
(Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Gouldman & Sayegh)**

Item #6e – Approval/Budgetary Amendment (19A024)/Health Department/ Septic System Repair Program/ Oscawana Lake was next. Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Addonizio, Chairwoman of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Sayegh, Legislator Addonizio moved the following:

Legislator Gouldman stated that he wished there were more funds designated for this area and wished that it included properties that were more than 200 feet from the lake. However, he stated that this was a good start.

**RESOLUTION #78**

**APPROVAL/BUDGETARY AMENDMENT /HEALTH DEPARTMENT/ SEPTIC SYSTEM REPAIR PROGRAM/ OSCAWANA LAKE**

WHEREAS, by Resolution #173 of 2018, the Putnam County Legislature and the County Executive approved and authorized the County's participation in the State Septic System Replacement Program; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has funded a new Septic System Repair Program for the Oscawana Lake Region in Putnam County; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH) will review applications for potential eligibility and approve projects on a monthly basis; and

WHEREAS, the PCDOH will submit expenses, and appropriate documentation for any completed projects, to Environmental Facilities Corporation, who, in turn, will electronically transfer funds to PCDOH for disbursement, to reimburse, up to 50% of the cost, to the homeowner of septic installer company; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Health has requested budgetary amendment (19A024) to properly allocate and track this funding source; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approve said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

**Increase Revenues:**

<b>12401000 423970</b>	<b>EHS – Septic Repair Revenue</b>	<b>75,000</b>
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**Increase Expenses:**

<b>12401000 54557</b>	<b>EHS – Septic System Disbursements</b>	<b>75,000</b>
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**2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –**

**2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –**

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

Item #6f – Approval/ Express Concerns Over and Seek Repeal of Provisions in the New York State Reproductive Health Act was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Sayegh, Legislator Addonizio moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery stated that the Legislature discussed process after the March 18<sup>th</sup> Health Committee meeting. She stated that it was her understanding that the resolution was introduced by Legislator Nacerino. She questioned who drafted the resolution.

Chairman Castellano explained that the Legislature has Legislative Counsel to help draft resolutions and this resolution was approved out of the Health Committee. It could certainly be changed as the Legislature wishes.

**Legislator Montgomery explained that there must have been a lot of research as there were a number of citing's referenced in the resolution. She referenced the long Health Committee meeting where several clerks, security guard and legislative counsel were required to attend. She questioned who authorized our attorney, after that meeting, to submit an 11 page analysis of her remarks during the Health Committee meeting.**

**Chairman Castellano explained that the Legislative Counsel presented the document to all the Legislators. Chairman Castellano deferred to Legislative Counsel. He questioned if the request came out of the Committee or was it basic business practice.**

**Legislative Robert Firriolo stated that it was basic course of business and not a specific rebuttal to Legislator Montgomery. It addressed just about every comment that was contentious the night of the Committee hearing which he felt would be helpful to the entire Legislature to consider the analysis of those comments. He stated that since a number of ascertains and citations in the resolution were questioned, he believed that it was important that the entire Legislature see the specific citations, references and documents where the resolution was relying on for the factual basis. He stated that Legislative Counsel routinely sends analysis of resolutions, research and backup to the Legislature for consideration as a resolution works its way to the Full Legislature.**

**Legislator Albano stated that when these questions and situations come forward, the Legislature relies on Counsel to provide us with information for review.**

**Legislator Montgomery explained that she was pointing out the resources which we expended at taxpayer's expense to draft a resolution to send an opinion to Albany. She did not understand how one (1) Legislator could authorize the expenditure of resources.**

**Chairman Castellano explained that this is a big issue before us this evening and we have Legislative Counsel for this reason and Legislator Montgomery can reach out to Legislative Counsel for the same reason.**

**Legislator Montgomery believed that the resolution was filled with false claims that misrepresents research and contains anti-choice rhetoric. It is asking New York State to roll back its regulation of abortion to an unconstitutional law from 1970; the law that criminalized abortion, had medically unnecessary requirements and ultimately resulted in our most vulnerable people being denied care. She explained the many strong feelings in this room such as anger and sadness and the disagreement between many individuals. She stated that nothing could be more personal than women who face this question; they deserve our support. She did not believe that we have heard the opinions of these women. She stated that Erica Christensen made the trip here tonight, but was locked out downstairs. Ms. Christensen has written to the Legislature and she hopes that the Legislature takes to heart her horrific story before you cast your vote tonight. Legislator Montgomery shared Ms. Christensen's story and others' that have had to face these difficult decisions. She believed these were questions faced by women who are pregnant; it is not a question faced by this Legislature. She believed that it was the belief of this Legislature that we can control what people living this horror can do. She spoke about a woman's choice and those who do not have support or full access to reproductive health in Putnam County; which is so limited. She believed it was the Legislature's responsibility to support these women. She stated that she would be voting no on this resolution.**

Legislator Nacerino believed this was a very important issue in Putnam County as you can see by the outpouring of individuals that have attended this meeting. She explained for Legislator Montgomery's knowledge, as a new Legislator, that any Legislator can bring forward a resolution and ask our Legislative Counsel to help draft it. It is then presented to the Chair of their respective Committee to put on their agenda. Upon approval by the Committee it would then go to the Full Legislature for consideration. She stated that she brought this resolution forward and wholeheartedly supports it. She stated that she fundamentally disagreed with just about everything Legislator Montgomery said. She stated that, while she respects Legislator Montgomery's position on this issue, it's in vast contrast to hers. She stated that she did not support expanding abortions past 24 weeks when we know a child is clearly viable; a healthy fetus. She believed that the Governor's law in its present form is broad-based and vague. She explained that it didn't define the "health" of the woman at said abortion. She questioned certain changes to the law such as: who can perform an abortion, the kind of facility where it is performed and a born alive baby having no rights. She believed there were many loopholes in the law. She stated her concern that there is no mention from the State of their intention, intervention or resources to educate and support women before and during pregnancy. She stated that she finds this law to be barbaric and therefore is unwavering in her commitment to decency and humanity.

Legislator Albano stated that there was no extra expense of taxpayer funds. This is what Legislative Counsel was hired to do which has been the ongoing procedure. He stated his heart goes out to anyone that has had an abortion or had to deal with this serious decision. He stated that he has five (5) children and five (5) grandchildren. He stated that he cannot agree or understand the decision to have an abortion or to view it as a simple elected procedure; especially late term. Although, he realizes at times there may be extenuating circumstances. He stated that he is a proud New Yorker, however the Governor's actions with the Reproductive Health Act, disappoints and saddens him. He stated that before our meetings we say the Pledge of Allegiance and he stated that he values those words especially the last line that says, "one nation under God with liberty and justice for all". He believed that "for all" included the unborn.

Legislator Sullivan stated that he was not angry with anyone here, but he was glad to see so many people from our community here to discuss this important issue. He stated that he was disappointed that our Governor and Legislators in Albany pushed this horrible legislation through in two (2) weeks with no input from the public. He believed that life is sacred and that it begins at conception. As a Legislator, he stated that he is proud to support pro-life legislation and will continue to defend the unborn. The sanctity of life is not just a phrase, it is the recognition that the value of human life is not assigned by our governments, philosophers or neighbors; it is the cornerstone of civilization. Abortion is not a matter of choice, it is a matter of life and how we value life. He stated that life begins at conception and he proceeded to read material supporting this from Dr. Richard Roth of Harvard University.

Legislator Jonke stated that he was not angry, however he was saddened and disappointed by some of the emails where the Legislators were called Nazis and racists. He stated that he was happy that the Legislature received overwhelming support from our residents. He stated that tonight we are considering this resolution. He stated that we are expressing our concerns over legislation that was passed by the Assembly, the Senate and signed on the same day by the Governor on January 22, 2019. It is necessary

for this Legislative body to express concern and request for reconsideration of all, or at least part of the RHA. He stated that New York State needs to consider the unintended consequences of this new law. The removal of criminal sanctions will allow criminals who perpetrate violent crimes against pregnant women to go unpunished. On February 3, 2019, Anthony Hobson stabbed his former girlfriend and her 14 week old fetus to death. He stated that the District Attorney cited the Reproductive Health Act as the reason for dropping the abortion charge against Hobson. The RHA removed the tool for prosecutors in fighting violent criminal acts against women.

Legislator Sayegh stated that her heart goes out to anyone who is in the position to seek an abortion. She does not believe these women are ill informed or incompetent. She stated that it was referenced that woman are denied access to abortion services and that is the reason for seeking late term abortions. She believed that women in a dire situation would not be denied medical services in the State of New York. She stated that according to data, New York has 218 abortion facilities, more than any other State. She stated that we also have the highest abortion rate in the nation; 29.6 abortions per 1,000 women of reproductive age. 33% of pregnancies in the State of New York end in abortion. She stated that, in the State of New York we use access as an excuse to expand late term abortions is just untrue. Women are not having a difficult time finding access in New York. It may be inconvenient for some, but access is not blocked and is readily available. She explained how the term "health" is undefinable and vague in the New York State's law and how the standard was changed. She explained that she also opposed the removal of criminal sanctions by removing abortion from the penal code. She explained how a woman's chance of becoming a homicide victim increases two (2) times just by being pregnant. She explained that in listening to all sides of this argument, she understands the deeply personal issue this is to all, both for and opposed. She believed in caring for those who are hopeless and helpless by offering a future of life and possibility and not doubt and regret. She explained that she is speaking up for the constituents in her district who did not get their voice heard in Albany who were blindsided by a vote just 22 days into our new Senator's term. She stated that Putnam County's resolution is urging the State to look again at this important issue to repeal the RHA, or at the least, parts of the RHA. She stated that the law also ignores the fact that the baby, which studies say and have shown, can feel pain. They suck their thumb, have a heart beat and even learn language in the womb. The law ignores the fact that the baby does not have a choice.

Legislator Addonizio stated that since 1970, crimes against pregnant women have been in the New York State Penal Code. She stated that the RHA removes a portion of related crimes including violent acts resulting in the loss of the child. She stated that the new law strips away criminal penalties, removing protections for pregnant women. She provided details of two (2) recent crimes against pregnant women which resulted in the loss of their babies. She spoke about the Lacey Peterson case and laws in other States that hold the criminal accountable when there is a violent attack resulting in the murder of a baby. She believed that we needed to give a voice to those who do not have a voice; the unborn.

Chairman Castellano thanked everyone who attended the meeting. He stated that he would like the RHA law to be reconsidered. He believed that there were too many loopholes.

Legislator Montgomery believed that nobody read the email from the woman who she spent the day with on Sunday because there is no access to later term abortions when the woman's health is at risk and the baby is not viable. This woman was not entitled to get an abortion. It would have been a crime and she had to spend tens of thousands of dollars to go out of State. She stated that we did not have access to healthcare for this woman until this health act was passed. She stated that just like the Legislature would like the State to reconsider the Reproductive Health Act, which has been on the table for six (6) years and has not been pushed through, she would like the Legislature to reconsider this resolution to correct the inaccuracies. She stated that the resolution should be changed to correct the misrepresentation of Dr. Foster's work. She stated that abortion is not a crime; it is healthcare. We should not be charging people who assault women with abortion. She stated that the claim that the RHA in some way limits the ability of prosecutors and judges to punish criminals is simply not true. This bill does not change the ability to bring charges against perpetrators of violent crimes against pregnant women. In fact, the charges and the penalties are far worse than the charge of abortion. Domestic violence organizations across the State, including NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence, support the passage of this Reproductive Health Act. She explained that it would be wrong to send this resolution to Albany when it misrepresents a doctor's work. She asked that the resolution be corrected before moving it forward.

Legislator Albano made a motion to call the question; seconded by Legislator Jonke. By Roll Call Vote: Eight Ayes. One Nay – Legislator Montgomery. Motion Carries.

Chairman Castellano called for a vote on the resolution.

#### RESOLUTION #79

#### APPROVAL/EXPRESS CONCERNS OVER AND SEEK REPEAL OF PROVISIONS IN THE NEW YORK STATE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature is charged to act to protect the health, safety, and well-being of all people within our County regardless of their age or stage of life; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2019, a new law entitled The Reproductive Health Act (the "RHA") was passed by both houses of the New York State Legislature, and signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo; and

WHEREAS, while proponents of reproductive rights once claimed to want to make abortion "safe, legal, and rare," passage of the RHA makes them less safe and will make them more common; and

WHEREAS, the RHA is not about "codifying *Roe vs. Wade*," as claimed, but about expanding abortion past twenty-four (24) weeks, when a child is already clearly viable and capable of pain and suffering; and

WHEREAS, the RHA opens the door broadly for abuse by allowing any health care practitioner – not just physicians – to perform an abortion as long as he or she acts in "good faith," rather than acting according to an objective medical standard of care; and

WHEREAS, the RHA repealed a section of New York's Public Health Law that required abortions performed after twelve (12) weeks of pregnancy be performed in a hospital; and

WHEREAS, while New York's Public Health Law formerly required a second physician to be on hand to care for a child twenty (20) weeks or older born alive during the course of an abortion, and required that such babies be provided "immediate legal

protection under the laws of the state of New York,” the RHA repealed such protection for a born-alive infant, essentially authorizing infanticide; and

WHEREAS, while New York law formerly allowed abortions after twenty-four (24) weeks of pregnancy when necessary to save a woman’s life, the RHA now permits late-term abortion at any time throughout pregnancy – up to the moment of birth – when necessary to protect a patient’s “health” – a term that is vague and undefined in the law, and which can be interpreted so broadly as to encompass just about anything, including stress, discomfort, or even inconvenience to the patient; and

WHEREAS, according to Guttmacher Institute data, at least 12,000 late-term abortions take place every year in the United States, almost none of which are done out of medical necessity; and

WHEREAS, as reported by Diana Greene Foster of the University of California, San Francisco – the lead investigator on the largest-ever study of women seeking late-term abortions: 1) fetal abnormalities “make up a small minority of later abortions”; 2) abortions prompted by threats to the health of the mother are even rarer; and 3) women’s reasons for late-term abortions include many not related to rational conceptions of “health,” including travel considerations, expense, indecision, and disagreements with the father; and

WHEREAS, the RHA removed abortion-related crimes from the Penal Law, including violent criminal acts that injure or kill preborn children, as well as violent criminal acts where pregnant women are assaulted causing them to miscarry; and

WHEREAS, this removal of criminal sanctions by the RHA has already resulted in serious, unintended consequences that allow violent criminal acts to go unpunished, including one case where the Queens District Attorney was unable to charge a violent assailant with the stabbing death of a woman’s unborn baby (which stabbing also killed the mother), and another case where the Bronx District Attorney was forced to drop criminal charges against a violent assailant who stabbed a woman who survived but tragically killed her unborn baby; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby expresses its deep concern and firm opposition to the aforementioned provisions of the RHA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby respectfully urges the County’s state legislative delegation – Senator Peter Harckham, Senator Susan Serino, Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, and Assemblywoman Sandra Galef – to introduce and support statewide legislation restoring the protections for unborn children formerly contained in the New York Penal Law and the New York Public Health Law that were repealed by the RHA, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby respectfully urges Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to sign said bill(s) forthwith upon passage; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Putnam County Legislature shall forward a copy of this Resolution to each in the County’s state legislative delegation and to the Governor.

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

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
(Chairman Albano, Legislators Gouldman & Nacerino)**

Item #6g – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A025)/Highways & Facilities/Federal Grant Funding/ UPWP – Data Management Related to Certain Highway Infrastructure was next. Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Albano, Chairman of the Physical Services Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Nacerino, Legislator Albano moved the following:

**RESOLUTION #80**

**APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT /HIGHWAYS & FACILITIES/ FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING/ UPWP – DATA MANAGEMENT RELATED TO CERTAIN HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the Planning Department has secured \$100,000 in funding for Data Management related to certain highway infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the funds will be utilized to capture data on County Roads using modern technology known as Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR); and

WHEREAS, the funding is 100% reimbursable under the Planning Departments Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Highways & Facilities has requested budgetary amendment (19A025) to account for the receipt of these Federal Grant funds; and

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

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

**Increase Estimated Appropriations:**

10802000 54646	Contracts	100,000
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**Increase Estimated Revenues:**

10802000 449895	Fed Aid – UPWP – Data Mgmt	100,000
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2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6h – Authorizing the Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid and/or State-Aid Transportation Project, and Appropriating Funds Therefore (Bridge NY funds – 2 Croton Falls Rd Culverts & Peekskill Hollow Rd Culvert) was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Nacerino, Legislator Albano moved the following:

**RESOLUTION #81**

**AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION, AND FUNDING IN THE FIRST INSTANCE 100% OF THE FEDERAL-AID AND STATE-AID ELIGIBLE COSTS, OF A TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID AND/OR STATE-AID TRANSPORTATION PROJECT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE. (Bridge NY funds – 2 Croton Falls Rd Culverts & Peekskill Hollow Rd Culvert)**

**WHEREAS, a Project for the two Croton Falls Road (CR 34) over Mud Pond Outlet Culvert Linings (Culverts 34-3 and 34-4) in the Town of Carmel and Peekskill Hollow Road (CR 21) over Peekskill Hollow Creek Culvert Replacement (Culvert 21-9) in the Town of Putnam Valley, Putnam County, identified as PIN 8815.12 (the "Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of 0% Federal funds and 100% non-federal (BRIDGE NY) funds; and**

**WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) will design, let and administer all phases of the Project; and**

**WHEREAS, Putnam County desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of preliminary engineering, right-of-way incidental, right-of-way acquisition, construction, construction inspection and construction supervision.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, the Putnam County Legislature duly convened does hereby**

**RESOLVE, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby approves the above-subject project; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Culvert 34-3 Croton Falls Road over Mud Pond has been apportioned \$181,864 of BRIDGE NY funding; that Culvert 34-4 Croton Falls Road over Mud Pond has been apportioned \$191,395 of BRIDGE NY funding; and that Culvert 21-9 Peekskill Hollow Road over Peekskill Hollow Creek has been apportioned \$1,000,000 of BRIDGE NY funding; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that the sum of \$1,373,259 is hereby appropriated and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phases of the Project; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby grants NYSDOT permission to directly apply BRIDGE NY funds to reimburse costs incurred by NYSDOT on the Project; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby agrees that Putnam County shall be responsible for all costs of the Project which exceed the amount of the BRIDGE NY funding awarded to Putnam County and whereas the County's current exposure is \$182,000; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Putnam County Legislature shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the Putnam County Executive thereof; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for State Aid and/or BRIDGE NY funding on behalf of Putnam County with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs, and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Putnam County will be responsible for all future maintenance of the three culverts and associated improvements in the Project after construction is complete and accepted; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that in addition to the Putnam County Executive, the following municipal titles: Commissioner of Highways & Facilities, Deputy Commissioner of Highway & Facilities, County Engineer, Supervisor of Planning & Design, Commissioner of Finance are also authorized to executive any**

necessary Agreements or certifications on behalf of the Municipality/Sponsor, with NYSDOT in connection with the advancement or approval of the project identified in the State/Local Agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

**Item #6i – Approval/ Highways & Facilities/ Use of Capital Facility Reserve (Tilly Foster Farm) was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Nacerino, Legislator Albano moved the following:**

**Legislator Albano made a motion to amend the resolutions by reducing the amount to \$125,000; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.**

**Legislator Albano explained that there were structural issues in the barn that needed repair.**

**Legislator Sullivan stated that it is very popular to have a wedding in a barn. He stated that there are two (2) beautiful barns at Tilly Foster Farm. He stated that we are talking about investing money into one (1) of the barns to allow people to rent it for weddings and parties.**

**Legislator Nacerino stated that we are reducing the amount pending more information before additional money is released. She explained that it would allow work to begin.**

**Legislator Sayegh stated that the Putnam County Arts Council will also have a presence at the barn. She stated that this was another reason for the upgrade. This will allow for work to start in anticipation for our future grant.**

**Legislator Montgomery stated that she was in support of reducing the amount and she was happy that the Putnam Arts Council will have a presence there. She hoped their presence will take precedent over any catering operations or restaurant. She would need to feel confident that we were not taking business away from private enterprises in the County.**

**Chairman Castellano called for a Roll Call on the motion to amend.**

**By Roll Call Vote: Eight Ayes. One Recusal – Legislator Addonizio as a family wedding may be taking place at the barn. Motion Carries.**

**Legislator Albano stated that the goal of our County facilities is to try and have them generate income to help cover the expense to the taxpayers. He stated that the money being approved is to address structural issues.**

**Legislator Sullivan stated that, as a small business owner himself, he protects them too. He explained that this is about improving an existing facility and allowing taxpayers to utilize it. He encouraged people to visit Tilly Foster Farm.**

Chairman Castellano also encouraged people to visit this beautiful property. He explained that if this project moves forward, one of the benefits would be that it will bring people in from outside of Putnam County to spend money in Putnam County.

## **RESOLUTION #82**

**APPROVAL/ HIGHWAYS & FACILITIES/ USE OF CAPITAL FACILITY RESERVE (Tilly Foster Farm Barn)**

**WHEREAS, by Resolution #59 of 2019 Putnam County designated \$1.5 million in a Capital Facility Reserve fund to be utilized for County Facility Renovations; and**

**WHEREAS, by Resolutions #60 of 2019 and #68 of 2019 the Putnam County Legislature approved the use of this Capital Project fund for projects; 19CP01 through 19CP02; for a total expenditure not to exceed \$55,000; and**

**WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Highways & Facilities has proposed the use of \$250,000 of this Capital Facility Reserve to fund, Project #19CP03 – Tilly Foster Farm Renovation, for which project scope is attached to this Resolution; and**

**WHEREAS, these requested funds will be placed back into the Capital Facility Reserve pending receipt of \$250,000 from a Grant Application submitted through State and Municipal (SAM) Grant Program administered through the Dormitory Authority State of New York (DASNY) by Resolution #189 of 2017; and**

**WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee has reviewed and approved this project; and**

**WHEREAS, the Legislature through the Physical Services Committee has received a scope of this project and a preliminary cost estimate of this project; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves and authorizes the expenditure of \$125,000 from the County Capital Reserve fund budget line 55197000 53000 51509 as follows:**

### **19CP03 Tilly Foster Farm Renovation (Barn) – Highways & Facilities**

**Project cost not to exceed \$125,000**

**And be it further**

**RESOLVED, that pending receipt of \$250,000 from a Grant Application submitted through State and Municipal (SAM) Grant Program administered through the Dormitory Authority State of New York (DASNY) by Resolution #189 of 2017, said funds will be placed back in the Capital Facility Reserve Fund.**

**BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. ONE RECUSAL – LEGISLATOR ADDONIZIO. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #6j – Approval/ Highways & Facilities/ Use of Capital Facility Reserve (Sheriff's Dept Substation in Putnam Valley – Women's Resource Center) was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Nacerino, Legislator Albano made a motion to table this item until more information is received; seconded by Legislators Nacerino and Jonke. All in favor.**

**APPROVAL/ HIGHWAYS & FACILITIES/ USE OF CAPITAL FACILITY RESERVE (Sheriff's Dept Substation in Putnam Valley – Women's Resource Center)**

**WHEREAS, by Resolution #59 of 2019 Putnam County designated \$1.5 million in a Capital Facility Reserve fund to be utilized for County Facility Renovations; and**

**WHEREAS, by Resolutions #60 of 2019, #68 of 2019 and #\_\_\_\_ of 2019 the Putnam County Legislature approved the use of this Capital Project fund for projects; 19CP01 through 19CP03; for a total expenditure not to exceed \$305,000; and**

**WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Highways & Facilities has proposed the use of \$100,000 of this Capital Facility Reserve to fund, Project #19CP04 – Sheriff's Substation in Putnam Valley – Women's Resource Center, for which project scope is attached to this Resolution; and**

**WHEREAS, these requested funds will be placed back into the Capital Facility Reserve pending receipt of \$100,000 from a Grant Application submitted through State and Municipal (SAM) Grant Program administered through the Dormitory Authority State of New York (DASNY) by Resolution #158 of 2018; and**

**WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee has reviewed and approved this project; and**

**WHEREAS, the Legislature through the Physical Services Committee has received a scope of this project and a preliminary cost estimate of this project; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves and authorizes the expenditure of \$100,000 from the County Capital Reserve fund budget line 55197000 53000 51509 as follows:**

**19CP04 Sheriff's Dept Substation in Putnam Valley – Women's Resource Center – Highways & Facilities**

**Project cost not to exceed \$100,000**

**And be it further**

**RESOLVED, that pending receipt of \$100,000 from a Grant Application submitted through State and Municipal (SAM) Grant Program administered through the Dormitory Authority State of New York (DASNY) by Resolution #158 of 2018, said funds will be placed back in the Capital Facility Reserve Fund.**

**Item #6k – Approval/ Authorizing Easement Agreement/ 10 Fair Street /Town of Carmel was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Gouldman and Nacerino, Legislator Albano moved the following:**

**Legislator Albano stated that he would be recusing himself as he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.**

**Legislator Sullivan stated that he too would recuse himself as a member of the Knights of Columbus.**

**RESOLUTION #83**

**AUTHORIZING/ EASEMENT AGREEMENT/10 FAIR STREET/TOWN OF CARMEL**

WHEREAS, 6318 Associates, Inc. is the fee owner of a certain parcel of real property in the Town of Carmel, County of Putnam, and State of New York, which is known as 10 Fair Street, Carmel, New York, and is further designated as Town of Carmel Tax Map Number 44.18-1-20; and

WHEREAS, the County is the fee owner of adjoining parcels of real property which are part of and known as the County Office Building Complex, and are further designated as Town of Carmel Tax Map Numbers 44.18-1-22, 24, and 25.1; and

WHEREAS, the County has requested a permanent easement over the parcel owned by 6318 Associates, Inc. for the purposes, among other things, of accessing the County Office Building Complex to and from Fair Street, and for locating refuse dumpster thereon; and

WHEREAS, 6318 Associates, Inc. has requested a non-exclusive permanent easement over the County's parcels for the purposes, among other things, of accessing its parcel, as well as for parking during non-business hours; and

WHEREAS, the parties are desirous of granting to one another such easements over their respective parcels; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Department of Highways and Facilities engineers have reviewed the proposed Easement Agreement (a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "A"), and have determined same to be acceptable; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Attorney has reviewed and approved the proposed Easement Agreement as to form; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Putnam County Legislature hereby approves and authorizes the subject Easement Agreement, which shall be in substantial conformance with the attached Exhibit "A"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive is authorized to execute said Easement Agreement on behalf of the County, which shall thereafter be recorded in the Putnam County Clerk's Office, Division of Land Records; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. TWO RECUSALS – LEGISLATORS ALBANO & SULLIVAN. MOTION CARRIES.

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

Item #6L – Approval/Budgetary Amendment (19A026)/ Veterans Affairs/ Peer to Peer Program was next. Chairman Castellano recognized Legislator Gouldman, Chairman of the Audit & Administration Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Castellano and Sayegh, Legislator Gouldman moved the following:

**RESOLUTION #84**

**APPROVAL/BUDGETARY AMENDMENT / VETERANS AFFAIRS/ PEER TO PEER PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Putnam County has been notified by the NYS Office of Mental Health of \$92,500 in funding (per 2018-19 NYS Legislative Add (001)) for the Putnam County 2019 Amendment 1 for the Veterans Peer to Peer Support Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, these funds are to assist Veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome or other related combat stress disorders through individual and small group peer-to-peer counseling methods; and

WHEREAS, the funds are available from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services, Mental Health has requested a budgetary amendment (19A026); 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:

**Increase Revenue:**

10651000 437895 10105	Veterans Peer to Peer program	92,500
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**Increase Appropriations:**

10651000 54646 10105	Veterans Peer to Peer Prgm- Contracts	92,500
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2019 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6m – Approval/ Local Law to Amend Chapter 41, Section 41-5 and add New Section 41-10 A(2)(b) of the Code of Putnam County Entitled “Deposit & Investment Policy” was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Castellano and Sayegh, Legislator Gouldman moved the following:

**RESOLUTION #85**

**APPROVAL/ LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 41, SECTION 41-5 and add New Section 41-10 A(2)(b) OF THE CODE OF PUTNAM COUNTY ENTITLED “DEPOSIT & INVESTMENT POLICY”**

**A Local law to Amend Chapter 41, Section 41-5 of the Code of Putnam County Entitled “Deposit & Investment Policy”**

**Be it enacted by the County Legislature of the County of Putnam as follows:**

**Section 1.**

**Section 41-5 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:**

**Section 41-5. Designation of Official Depositories.**

**The banks and trust companies authorized for the deposit of monies up to the maximum amounts are:**

<b>DEPOSITORY NAME</b>	<b>MAXIMUM AMOUNT</b>
JP Morgan Chase	\$30,000,000
Key Bank	\$30,000,000

M&T Bank	\$30,000,000
People's United Bank N.A.	\$10,000,000
Putnam County National Bank	\$10,000,000
PCSB Commercial Bank subsidiary of PCSB	\$10,000,000
Signature Bank	\$10,000,000
Sterling Bank	\$10,000,000
TD Bank	\$30,000,000
Tompkins Mahopac National Bank	\$10,000,000
Webster	\$30,000,000
Wells Fargo	\$10,000,000

**Section 2.**

Section 41-10 Entitled "Purchase of Investments" of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended by adding a new subsection 41-10 A(2)(b) to read as follows:

41-10 A(2)(b) NYCLASS (New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Security System)

**Section 3.**

This Law shall take effect immediately.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Item #7 – Other Business**

There was no other business submitted for the meeting.

**Item #8 – Recognition of Public on Agenda Items**

Chairman Castellano explained that anyone who wished to speak has already signed up by filling out an index card with their name and town in which they reside. There are many individuals who wished to make a comment and he will call people up five (5) at a time. He stated that comments will be limited to two (2) minutes and people can comment on any of the agenda items. He asked everyone to be respectful of one another.

Nicholas Kuvach of Putnam Valley believed it was inappropriate for the Putnam County Legislature to express an opinion to the New York State Government for which there is no consensus in this County. He believed that unless there is 100% agreement the Putnam County Legislature should not speak outside the County on his behalf. They should stick to doing Putnam County business. Leave it to individual citizens to express their opinions to the Governor and State Legislature. He believed the resolution was highly inappropriate and undemocratic.

Ellen Egerter of Cold Spring recited a poem against the Governor's Reproductive Health Act law.

Peter Dandreano of Patterson stated that he is a Council member on the Patterson Town Board and is not speaking on behalf of the Town of Patterson. He thanked Legislator Addonizio, Chairwoman of the Health Committee, the Health Committee members,

**Legislator Nacerino and the Legislators that have supported this resolution. He believed it was important for this County to speak up and let the NYS Legislature know how the majority of us feel about the heinous law that was rushed to vote without public input or debate. He stated that the law was passed just a few weeks after many new Legislators were just sworn in. He believed that this controversial issue deserves to have public, professional and moral input. He stated that an unborn eagle and other wildlife in NYS have more protection than an unborn human baby. He stated that at the Health Committee meeting he heard comments that it was wrong to have a Clergy person commenting on issues at a public meeting. He stated that separation of Church and State is not meant for Christians, Jews and other religious groups to be silent on government matters. It is to keep government from forcing moral issues on us; issues that are against our beliefs. He stated that government officials should also be allowed to stand behind their faith, stand up for the principles that they believe in; even when they are biblical or religious beliefs. He believed the RHA needed to be repealed.**

**Carlos Salcedo of Philipstown explained that he is excited that everyone has the opportunity to exercise their democratic rights, against or for the RHA, which have all been well respected. He appreciated the Legislature taking on this complex issue, when most would look the other way. He explained what science supports in the development of a baby from the moment of conception. He was glad that Putnam County put the focus on the most vulnerable part of society; speaking for the unborn babies.**

**Sonia Rzyz-Ryski of Cold Spring stated that from what she read, late term abortion is very rare and happens when the fetus is not viable. It is extremely traumatic and painful for the family. She was not in favor of killing babies. She believed it was important that healthcare decisions were left up to women and their doctors. She believed without this law women with less resources will suffer.**

**Eileen McDermott of Brewster stated that the RHA remains the law and became a law for a reason. She trusted New Yorkers to continue to vote pro-choice. She does not support this resolution. She stated that she lives in Southeast and trusts women to make decisions about their bodies and their families.**

**Regina Riely of Ossining stated that before the RHA was adopted, there was another law on the books which stated that in any abortion where a baby is born alive, a second doctor was to be present to administer to the baby whatever care him/her needed, the same way as an adult would be treated. She explained that the RHA repealed that law. Now any fetal child; seven, eight or nine months gestation, are designated as none persons, none human with no rights; not even animal rights. She stated that such third trimester abortions where the child is born alive, the abortionist can do anything to the baby, from passive to active infanticide. She stated that the mother can sign a release form so that the baby can be used for scientific research. She explained how they could remove a baby's brain.**

**Donna Crist of Mahopac thanked the Legislature for speaking up for all the babies. She shared her story about how her parents were foster parents when she was younger and explained how she learned about love and caring for others. She mentioned some of the agencies that offer assistance for pregnant women. She believed there was no reason for having an abortion. She described some scenarios of how to offer assistance in certain circumstances.**

**Ann Gerbeth of Mahopac thanked the Legislature for their support of pro-life. She provided a synopsis of the movie “Unplanned” which is about a woman named Abby Johnson who worked in an abortion clinic in Texas who then quit her job and is now a pro-life activist. She encouraged everyone to watch the movie whether you are pro-life or not.**

**Margaret Doherty of Mahopac stated that Guttmacher Institute states that of all 94,000 abortions in 2014 throughout the United States, 1.2% were late term abortions. She applauded the Legislature for the work they have done. She stated that she was concerned about the repeal of NY Public Health law 4164 where during the third trimester abortions there will no longer be a second doctor to care for the born alive baby. She spoke about several abortion survivors.**

**Kathy Dana of Carmel thanked the Legislature for bringing this resolution forward. She explained that she previously worked as a Respiratory Therapist. She stated that their goal was to preserve life. She was disheartened to live in a State with such low regard for the preciousness of life; particularly of the pre-born. She shared a story of when she preserved life and helped a pre-term woman deliver twins. She stated that she has known many people who have had a false diagnosis and the baby was perfectly normal.**

**Terry Del Campo of Mahopac thanked the Legislature for their courage. She described how saddened she was with the Governor and State Legislature for passing this law and that Governor Cuomo announced how New York City was lit up in pink lights. She stated that in her day the color pink was used to announce the birth of a baby girl, not the death of an innocent baby. She stated that Senator Schumer and Speaker Pelosi think it is immoral define our borders with a wall or barrier, however, murdering an innocent creation is not immoral? She described the loss of respect for the older generation, the Office of the President of America and the life of an innocent baby growing in a mother’s womb. She believed that immorality in our society was out of control. She hoped that her comments on requesting the repeal of the Governor’s RHA can change the hearts and minds of many now and in the future.**

**Nancy Pacheco of Lake Carmel stated that she is the product of a failed abortion. She explained how her mother at 17 years old was very ill and her doctors and parents wanted her to abort the baby. She stated that her mother fought for her and stated that it would be premeditated murder. She thanked her mother and the Legislature for standing firm as well.**

**Dwight Arthur of Carmel stated that he knows he will not change the opinion of anyone, however he did not believe that we should be telling lies. He believed that the resolution was filled with a significant number of very clear misstatements of fact of the law. He stated that the homicide law protects any person who is born alive. Regardless of what the circumstances were before they were born, once they are born they are covered under the homicide law. He explained that the situation of two (2) doctors being required in an abortion after 12 weeks was removed from the law books by the RHA, but was not taken out of affect from the RHA. It was taken out of affect by the court case of Thornburgh versus the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 1986. He believed it was a waste of time to ask the State to put something back into law when it wasn’t enforceable. He also believed that the work of Dr. Diana Greene Foster has also been distorted in the resolution.**

Jordan Bailey-Hoover of Brewster thanked Legislator Jonke for his response to her. She asked that the Legislature represent all of us; however she did not see any changes made to the resolution once certain facts had been pointed out. She explained that she was a former patient of Planned Parenthood and went to them when she had no other options. She stated that it is an organization that takes anyone regardless of their circumstances and provides healthcare no matter what. She stated that abortion is healthcare. She stated that the other part of reproductive health that she hasn't heard any mention of is access to contraception and sexual education. She believed this was something the Legislature had jurisdiction over and could help to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies. She explained that the RHA has been in Albany as a piece of legislation for 12 years; it was not passed in one (1) day. She believed that the resolution tonight was a step backwards. She explained that she had a conversation with Erica Christianson and Garren Marshall, which was the couple that Legislator Montgomery spoke about. They shared that, in their situation, people who passed these laws made it worse. She stated that is why they have been working hard to change these laws. She encouraged everyone to meet with healthcare providers and to meet with individuals who have gone through these situations.

Conner Brennan of Cold Spring provided the definition of "viable". He stated that the RHA states that you can get an abortion after 24 weeks if the mother's health is at risk or the fetus isn't viable. He explained that "health" is a vague term, however he believed that a doctor could pin down the definition of what health means. He believed taxpayer monies were wasted on this resolution such as; the cost for the attorney to draft the resolution, time wasted holding meetings, discussion and votes on this. He believed resources should have been spent on issues of dire concern such as the opioid crisis. He believed that the Legislature addressed an issue they had no right, authority or jurisdiction to consider. He believed that women had a right to control their bodies.

John Barnas of Verplanck, New York believed that it was not a woman's right to kill a baby. He thanked the Legislature for their vote and strength.

Jason McGuire, Executive Director of New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms stated that the Putnam County Legislature has displayed leadership and bravery by expressing firm opposition to provisions of the Reproductive Health Act. He stated that, to his knowledge, Putnam County is the first county in the State of New York to pass a resolution like this. He stated that the resolution lays out a strong and compelling case against the RHA based upon concerns for women's health and well-being and the health and well-being of unborn children. It also debunks the inaccurate and dishonest messaging that was used to promote the RHA. New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms thanks the Legislature for taking action today. He explained what his organization is doing with other pro-life allies asking the Governor to repeal the entire RHA. He stated that together we must raise awareness of the tragedy, brutality and injustice of abortion until our State recognizes the errors of its ways and reverses course.

Karen Trovato of Putnam Valley stated that according to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) it looks like 8,294 would be the number of late term abortions. She believed that some on the Legislature did not believe in the legality of abortion at all. She did not believe that punishment through the penal code would prevent any crime against pregnant women. She stated that revenge does not protect women. She believed it was a woman's right to make the hard decision to have an abortion. She believed that it was nonsense to think that women abort late term on a whim.

Jeanne Sherry of Putnam Valley thanked the Legislature for their vote tonight. She stated that she supports life and would like to be a voice for those who have no voice. She stated that she is against abortion. If a child is born from a failed abortion, that baby should have a right to be cared for and put up for adoption. She shared how incredible technology is now and how they can perform surgeries on unborn children. She stated that anesthesia is used during these surgeries, but it is not during an abortion. She stated that the suffering breaks her heart. She shared how woodpeckers are destroying her house, however they are a protected species and no one would help her.

Baila Lemonik of Mahopac stated that she is a trauma specialist and has worked with many young sexual abuse victims who found themselves pregnant. She explained how they are affected on an emotional level. She does not accept that abortion is unacceptable for the women and girls she works with or for herself. She stated that she is pro-woman and pro-choice.

Kenn Sapeta of Cold Spring thanked the Legislature for having courage, wisdom and heart to pass this resolution against the RHA. He stated that there is proof from Harvard University that life begins at conception. He encouraged anyone on either side of this issue to watch the movie "Unplanned".

Edmund Riely a volunteer for Hudson Valley Right to Life thanked the Legislature for their courageous action. He stated that the figures for late term abortions are between 8,000 and 15,000. He stated that the reason they don't know the exact figure is because there are some states that don't report anything. He explained that there were no public hearings held in the State before passing the RHA. He also made some comments about the New York Times and Planned Parenthood.

June Colthrst of Carmel believed that there were many false statements made this evening. She stated that it is a sad fact that the majority of abortions are performed on young black women. She stated that in justice and liberty we speak for all. She believed that it was not available to a certain class of people in this country. She believed that the moment we begin to look at each other as human beings, and we do not see a race or category of people, we will be a better country, community and society. She believed that we need to focus making our world a better place. She spoke about adoption and fostering children. She stated that it is not our right to dictate how a woman should care for her body or make a decision about her body. It is the woman's right.

Sarah St. Onge of Patterson stated that she carried a pregnancy to term when she was given a lethal birth prenatal diagnosis at nine (9) weeks, 12 weeks and 24 weeks gestation. She never wanted to terminate her pregnancy. She stated that New York is not friendly to pro-life doctors or life affirming doctors. She was denied care for her baby at the hospital she delivered at because her baby had a lethal diagnosis. She stated that since she was born they have been in contact with a number of parents, and at least anecdotally at this point, we have 10 survivors of her daughter's disorder. It is not beneficial to people to offer them to end the lives of their children. She wanted to clarify that Erica Christensen was not denied the ability to get in here tonight. Sarah explained how she herself arrived an hour after everyone else and was near the end of the line. She filled out the index card and waited to be called up to this room. She continued and explained how doctors stated that they would not resuscitate her daughter at birth if they took her case. She stated that women in New York do not receive support for continuing

a pregnancy. She further explained the situations she encountered during her pregnancy.

Deacon Scott Bierbaum of Carmel thanked the Legislature for making this decision. He explained that there will always be issues that everyone does not agree with. He stated that he does not sit in judgment of anyone; he prays for people dealing with difficult situations.

Carole Mahon of Cortlandt explained that the sign in this room says: "In God we Trust". She believed that we all, in some time or another in this country, have decided that we are God. She stated that in January 23, 1972 the Supreme Court of the United States gave women a choice. She stated that abortion means that you stop something; we are stopping a life.

Kevin McConville of Cold Spring stated as a father and grandfather he applauded the Legislature for passing this resolution. He referenced many of the proclamations this evening; saving a life, fighting alcoholism and drugs. He questioned what was being done to protect the unborn. He stated that the Legislature has earned his respect and admiration for passing this resolution.

Wanda Law of Brewster stated that growing up in the Bronx she grew up abortion minded; many friends were getting abortions. She explained that remembering the grief on their faces after the procedures changed her. She stated that she has three (3) amazing daughters even after being told by a doctor that she couldn't have any children. She explained how she has researched this matter and later in life worked in a pregnancy resource center to help women. She stated that we need to step up and be there for families when they are facing these issues. She explained that perfect love casts out fear and leads to hope.

Rebeca Ramirez of Cold Spring explained that she was uncomfortable that five (5) men and three (3) women voted on this controversial resolution that has the potential of impacting 100% of mothers, women and young teenagers in Putnam County. She stated that this issue is very complicated. She explained that many individuals in her family were sexually abused. She believed it was a very private issue and a decision that should be made between a woman and her doctor. She hoped that the Legislature would show support for the proposed law that would require every New York school to have one hour to one hour and a half of education on appropriate touch and sexual abuse. It would allow our youth to be informed and educated and that sexual abuse victims can be empowered to speak up.

Susanah Lor of Poughkeepsie explained that she had a late term abortion at 8 ½ months with a child that she very much wanted. She stated that her faith in God never faulted. She explained that her daughter was choking on her own blood and her baby was poisoning her blood. She explained that it was the most difficult decision, but she loved her daughter enough to let her go and chose to live for her family.

Anique Nicholson of Kingston stated that she is a survivor of domestic violence and was disgusted at the cynical way that domestic violence is being deployed. She stated that the RHA was in the works for 12 years. She read a statement by the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence in support of the Reproductive Health Act. She sent her love and solidarity to Legislator Montgomery for her steadfast support.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to allow three (3) speakers that requested more time to speak again for one (1) more minute each; seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Nicholas Kuvach spoke again and stated that her 28 year old daughter is an athlete, scholar, NYS licensed attorney who practices law in New York City. He questioned what right do you have to impose your law on his daughter's body.

Chairman Castellano explained that this was a comment period and questions would not be answered.

Baila Lemonik spoke again and stated that this is a court of law that we are standing in and not a church. She believed that the soul does not enter the body until birth. She stated that it is not a viable human being. She did not believe that the Legislature should tell her what her beliefs should be.

Edmund Riely spoke again making it clear that he does not support abortion or the Governor's law. He spoke about how a child can be aborted.

Chairman Castellano thanked everyone for their comments this evening.

Item #9 – Recognition of Legislators

Legislator Jonke reminded everyone that April is Autism Awareness Month. He also wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Legislator Sullivan stated that on April 13<sup>th</sup> a Beer Feast is scheduled to take place at Tilly Foster Farm.

Legislator Nacerino thanked everyone for attending and for all those who spoke and participated in the process by sending emails or made a telephone call to the Legislative Office. She stated that as the Legislative representative for the Town of Patterson she was proud to bring this resolution forward. She stated that she had a ground swell of calls, conversations and emails solidifying opposition of the RHA by her constituents. She has not received anything from any Patterson resident in support of the RHA. She stated that regarding the matter of church and state that was addressed at the Health Committee meeting, she stated that she would like to be very clear. She stated that her comments were thoroughly vetted through Counsel beforehand. In lieu of some of the comments made at that meeting and in light of the criticism we received, we reaffirm by referencing People for the American Way for further check and balance. She stated that her referencing of statements by Cardinals came nowhere near crossing the line of impermissibility mixing religion and government. She explained that her opposition to the RHA was not based on her religious beliefs; it was a humanity issue.

Legislator Addonizio wished everyone a Happy & Healthy Easter and Passover.

There being no further business, at 10:45 P.M., Chairman Castellano made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.