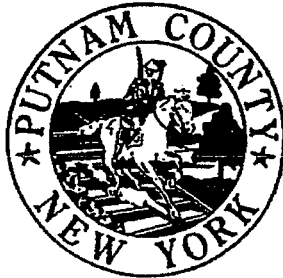


THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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Daniel G. Birmingham *Chairman*
William Gouldman *Deputy Chair*
Diane Trabulsy *Clerk*



Nancy Montgomery	Dist. 1
William Gouldman	Dist. 2
Toni E. Addonizio	Dist. 3
Laura E. Russo	Dist. 4
Jake D'Angelo	Dist. 5
Thomas Regan, Jr.	Dist. 6
Daniel G. Birmingham	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

**AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
CALLED BY THE CLERK AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN
TO BE HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Wednesday April 8, 2026
(To Immediately Follow the Health Mtg. & Protective Mtg.)

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Legislative Prayer**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Approval - Local Law Providing For A Counsel To The County Legislature**
- 5. Adjournment**

5. that the requisite checks and balances will be adequately served and satisfied by the oversight and advice of risk management in consultation with our insurance carrier, when and if appropriate.

Section 2. Establishment.

There is hereby established the position of Counsel to the County Legislature. Counsel to the County Legislature shall be selected by and then hired by the legislature in the manner provided herein, shall have the role and function provided herein, and such position shall be an employee of the County Legislature and not of the Department of Law established under Article 8 of this Charter. Such position will be selected by simple majority upon a vote. Removal can also be effected by simple majority vote as this will be an at-will position.

Section 3. Method of Selection and Tenure.

1. At the annual Organizational Meeting of the County Legislature for the year 2027, or as soon as practicable thereafter, there, annually, shall be selected a Counsel to the County Legislature to be selected in executive session by the simultaneous presentation of all candidates to the entire board along with a representative of the Personnel Department and the Legislative Clerk, and the prevailing candidate shall win by simple majority vote, vacancies shall be filled in this same manner. Removal of Counsel to the County Legislature may also be accomplished by a simple majority vote. Prior to January 1, 2027, Counsel to the County Legislature shall be selected in the same manner as a vacancy.
2. Counsel to the County Legislature shall hold his or her office until a successor has been appointed.
3. At the time of his/her appointment, and throughout his/her time in office, the Counsel to the County Legislature shall be duly admitted to practice law in the State of New York.

Section 4. Scope and Role of the position Counsel to the Legislature:

1. Oversee the preparation of local laws, ordinances, acts and resolutions upon receipt of a request.
2. Research problems related to the function, powers and duties of the County Legislature and its employees.
3. Prepare written reports on the breadth and depth of the function, powers and duties of the County Legislature and its employees.
4. As requested by any Legislator, attend full Legislative meetings, special meetings and committee meetings.

5. Provide advice to the members of the County Legislature on Rules of Order, general parliamentary procedure, and other procedural questions as they arise or as requested during Legislative meetings.
6. Recommend procedures in connection with the implementation of policy for the County Legislature.
7. Recommend and coordinate appropriate ways to communicate initiatives and policies of the County Legislature through media and other mechanisms.
8. Perform a variety of related activities as required, not inconsistent with Section 501 of the County Law and the provisions of the County Charter, and the Putnam County Code.
9. Counsel shall be available to provide advisory services to all members of the Legislature.
10. Requests for legislative drafting or advisory services shall remain confidential to the requesting legislator unless otherwise authorized by such requesting legislator.

Section 5. Independence and limitations.

The Counsel to the County Legislature shall not be part of, supervised by, or subject to removal by the Department of Law or the County Attorney. Counsel to the County Legislature shall be strictly advisory and legislative in nature. Counsel to the County Legislature shall not appear as attorney of record for the County or in any court or administrative proceeding, nor represent the County in litigation or claims. Nothing herein shall affect the authority or responsibilities of the County Attorney under Article 8 of the County Charter, including representation of the County and the Legislature in legal proceedings, except as hereinafter provided.

Section 6. Conflicts.

Section 8.05 of the County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following unenumerated paragraph:

In the event of a direct conflict between the County Legislature and the County Executive in any legal action or proceeding, the Legislature may retain independent legal counsel by resolution.

Section 7. Severability and Enactment.

If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason by court of law, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable, and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.

Section 8. Effective Date.

Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.