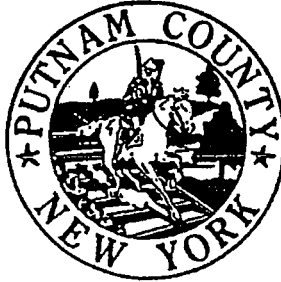


THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

40 Gleneida Avenue
Carmel, New York 10512
Phone (845) 808-1020 • Fax (845) 808-1933
putcoleg@putnamcountyny.gov

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
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AGENDA

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
TO BE HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Sayegh and Legislators Birmingham & Gouldman

Tuesday

June 9, 2026

(Immediately following the Personnel Mtg at 6PM)

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Discussion – Approval – Local Law to Amend Chapter 55, Section 55-12 of the Putnam County Code Entitled “Board of Ethics Establishment; Qualifications of Members; Appointment of Members; Term of Office”**
- 4. Discussion – Approval – Taxpayer Transparency Act**
- 5. Discussion – Approval – Taxpayer Access Act**
- 6. Discussion – Approval – ARPA Reallocation from Stabilization Center to County-wide Paving Projects**
- 7. FYI – County Contracts Report**
- 8. FYI – Litigation Report**
- 9. Other Business**
- 10. Adjournment**

#3

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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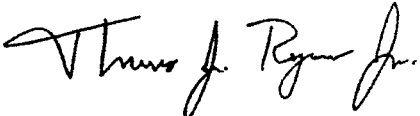
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 22, 2026

TO: Daniel G. Birmingham
Chairman, Putnam County Legislature

CC: Amy Sayegh
Chairwoman, Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Thomas Regan
Legislator, District #6 

RE: Proposed Local Law - Amend Chapter 55, Section 55-12 of the Putnam County Code Entitled "Board of Ethics Establishment; Qualifications of Members; Appointment of Members; Term of Office"

At its May 12, 2026 meeting, the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee had a productive discussion regarding a proposed local law to amend Chapter 55 Section 55-12 of the Putnam County Code pertaining to the membership of the Putnam County Board of Ethics. The following day Legislative Counsel Abissi provided an amended version of the proposed local law incorporating the changes discussed at said meeting.

Attached are further amendments I would like to propose. Respectfully, I request this be forwarded to the appropriate Committee for review and consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to moving forward on this issue.

Version #3 – 05/21/2026

Proposed Local Law revised further by Legislator Tommy Regan

Redlined against Version #2

APPROVAL = LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 55, SECTION 55-12 OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY CODE ENTITLED “BOARD OF ETHICS ESTABLISHMENT; QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS; APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS; TERM OF OFFICE”

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature finds that balance of powers between branches of government is a core protection grounded in our nation’s foundational documents; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature finds that accountability to an ethical code and ethical standards should hold both branches of government equally accountable; and

WHEREAS, if the candidates for the ethics board are unilaterally selected by one branch of government even with confirmation required, there is an unconscious bias built into the selection process; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature hereby seeks to remedy this issue, by amending the County Ethics Code; and

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

Section 1.

Chapter 55, Section 55-12 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 55-12 Board of Ethics establishment; qualifications of members; appointment of members; term of office.

A. A Board of Ethics is hereby created consisting of five (5) members. Two (2) members shall be appointed by the County Executive, two (2) members shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Legislature, and one (1) member shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Legislature. If the Legislature is controlled by only one political party, the appointment shall instead be made by the leader of the largest non-controlling political party based on voter registration. All appointments must be confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Legislature. For purposes of this section, “Minority Leader” means the legislator who belongs to the political party that does not control the Legislature and has the greatest number of registered voters. ~~Any Board of Ethics established prior to this enactment under a different appointment process is hereby dissolved, and a new Board shall be appointed in accordance with this section.~~

i. The selections shall be for specific designated seats as follows:

- 1. Seat one shall be selected by the ~~Legislature~~County Executive**
- 2. Seat two shall be selected by the ~~County Executive~~Chair of the Legislature**

3. Seat three shall be selected by the ~~Minority Leader~~County Executive
4. Seat four shall be selected by the Chair of the Legislature
5. Seat five shall be selected by the ~~County Executive~~Minority Leader

ii. Should any seat become vacant, it shall be filled in the same manner as specifically designated.

- B. The members of the Board of Ethics shall reside in the County of Putnam.
- C. No member of the Board of Ethics may be an appointed officer or employee of the County.
- D. No Board of Ethics member shall hold office in a political party or be employed or act as a lobbyist or hold elective office in the County.
- E. Board members will serve for a two (2) year term, beginning from their date of appointment.
- F. A Board of Ethics member shall serve until his or her successor has been appointed.
- G. The members of the Board of Ethics shall not receive compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.
- H. Any hearing to be held, must be heard before and voted on by the entire Board of Ethics by majority vote. In the case of a conflict of interest, ~~the matter in any matter, the ethics complaint giving rise to the conflict~~ shall be referred to another County's Board of Ethics. At no time shall a single outside counsel be called upon to render an opinion in place of the Board of Ethics. A conflict of interest may be raised by any member of the board, any complainant, or any subject of a complaint. Any such conflict must be voted on and a written decision rendered as to whether the board believes it can be fair and impartial by an appearance of impropriety standard. ~~if not~~if the board determines it cannot be fair and impartial in the handling of any ethics complaint, referral to another County's Board of Ethics shall be requested by the Board of Ethics, and such referral shall be coordinated by the Putnam County Clerk's Office.

Section 2. This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

APPROVAL – LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 55, SECTION 55-12 OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY CODE ENTITLED “BOARD OF ETHICS ESTABLISHMENT; QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS; APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS; TERM OF OFFICE”.

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature finds that balance of powers between branches of government is a core protection grounded in our nation’s foundational documents; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature finds that accountability to an ethical code and ethical standards should hold both branches of government equally accountable; and

WHEREAS, if the candidates for the ethics board are unilaterally selected by one branch of government even with confirmation required, there is an unconscious bias built into the selection process; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature hereby seeks to remedy this issue, by amending the County Ethics Code; and

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

Section 1.

Chapter 55, Section 55-12 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 55-12 Board of Ethics establishment; qualifications of members; appointment of members; term of office.

A. A Board of Ethics is hereby created consisting of five (5) members. Two (2) members shall be appointed by the County Executive, two (2) members shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Legislature, and one (1) member shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Legislature. If the Legislature is controlled by only one political party, the appointment shall instead be made by the leader of the largest non-controlling political party based on voter registration. All appointments must be confirmed by a simple majority vote of the Legislature. For purposes of this section, “Minority Leader” means the legislator who belongs to the political party that does not control the Legislature and has the greatest number of registered voters. Any Board of Ethics established prior to this enactment under a different appointment process is hereby dissolved, and a new Board shall be appointed in accordance with this section.

i. The selections shall be for specific designated seats as follows:

- 1. Seat one shall be selected by the County Executive**
- 2. Seat two shall be selected by the Chair of the Legislature**
- 3. Seat three shall be selected by the County Executive**
- 4. Seat four shall be selected by the Chair of the Legislature**

- 5. Seat five shall be selected by the Minority Leader**
- ii. Should any seat become vacant, it shall be filled in the same manner as specifically designated.**

- B. The members of the Board of Ethics shall reside in the County of Putnam.**
- C. No member of the Board of Ethics may be an appointed officer or employee of the County.**
- D. No Board of Ethics member shall hold office in a political party or be employed or act as a lobbyist or hold elective office in the County.**
- E. Board members will serve for a two (2) year term, beginning from their date of appointment.**
- F. A Board of Ethics member shall serve until his or her successor has been appointed.**
- G. The members of the Board of Ethics shall not receive compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.**
- H. Any hearing to be held, must be heard before and voted on by the entire Board of Ethics by majority vote. In the case of a conflict of interest in any matter, the ethics complaint giving rise to the conflict shall be referred to another County's Board of Ethics. At no time shall a single outside counsel be called upon to render an opinion in place of the Board of Ethics. A conflict of interest may be raised by any member of the board, any complainant, or any subject of a complaint. Any such conflict must be voted on and a written decision rendered as to whether the board believes it can be fair and impartial by an appearance of impropriety standard. If the board determines it cannot be fair and impartial in the handling of any ethics complaint, referral to another County's Board of Ethics shall be requested by the Board of Ethics, and such referral shall be coordinated by the Putnam County Clerk's Office.**

Section 2. This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

#4

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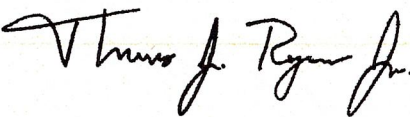
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Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 22, 2026

TO: Daniel G. Birmingham
Chairman, Putnam County Legislature

CC: Amy Sayegh
Chairwoman, Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Thomas Regan
Legislator, District #6 

RE: Taxpayer Transparency Act

As discussed in previous meetings, it was generally agreed upon that it was prudent and of sound recommendation to split the "Taxpayer Transparency Act" and "Taxpayer Access Act" initiatives so each can be discussed and voted upon.

It is my understanding that the **Taxpayer Transparency Act** will be addressed by the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee in June. Respectfully, I request the attached proposed local law pertaining to the **Taxpayer Transparency Act** be forwarded to the appropriate Committee to be included for review and consideration as well.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to moving forward on this issue.

Proposal from Legislator Regan 5/22/2026

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM BY ADDING CHAPTER 222, ENTITLED "TRANSPARENCY ACT"

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

Section I.

Chapter 222 of the Code of the County of Putnam is hereby added as provided hereinafter:

**CHAPTER 222
TRANSPARENCY ACT**

§ 222-1 Title.

§ 222-2 Legislative intent.

§ 222-3 Electronic public access to meetings and information.

§ 222-4 Severability.

§ 222-1 Title.

This chapter of the Code of Putnam County shall be entitled and known as the "Transparency Act."

§ 222-2 Legislative intent.

The Legislature finds that County processes and resources are often confusing and/or hard to locate. The Legislature wants taxpayers to have easy access to information and the ability to access and understand the County process. It is further the Legislature's intent to provide transparency in County government by ensuring Legislative meetings and Executive public hearings are available to the public through a readily accessible live streaming platform, except in the event of technology failure.

§ 222-3 Electronic public access to meetings and information.

- A. The Putnam County Legislature shall make all meetings of the Legislature or its subcommittees available for public viewing by live video stream whenever practicable. A link to the live stream shall be conspicuously posted and made available on the Legislature's website at least eight (8) hours prior to the meeting whenever practicable.
- B. Except in the case of executive sessions held pursuant to N.Y.S. Open Meetings Law § 105, the Legislature shall ensure that members can be heard, seen, and identified at all times when the meeting is being conducted, including but not limited to any motions, proposals, resolutions, and any other matter formally discussed or voted upon.

Proposal from Legislator Regan 5/22/2026

- C. Whenever practicable, all public hearings held by the County Executive pursuant to § 3.04-B of the Charter shall be available for public viewing by live stream.**
- D. Each meeting or hearing that is live streamed shall be recorded and such recordings linked or posted online, to the extent practicable, within five (5) business days following the meeting/hearing and shall remain so available for a minimum of five (5) years thereafter.**

§ 222-4 Severability.

If any part or provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this chapter or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances. The County of Putnam hereby declares that it would have passed this chapter or the remainder thereof had such invalid application or invalid provision been apparent.

Section II.

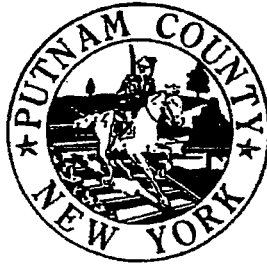
This local law shall take effect immediately upon the filing with the Secretary of State.

#5

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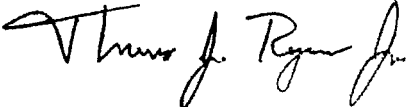
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 22, 2026

TO: Daniel G. Birmingham
Chairman, Putnam County Legislature

CC: Amy Sayegh
Chairwoman, Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Thomas Regan
Legislator, District #6 

RE: Taxpayer Access Act

As discussed in previous meetings, it was generally agreed upon that it was prudent and of sound recommendation to split the "Taxpayer Transparency Act" and "Taxpayer Access Act" initiatives so each can be discussed and voted upon.

I respectfully request the attached proposed local law pertaining to the **Taxpayer Access Act** be forwarded to the appropriate Committee to be included for review and consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to moving forward on this issue.

Proposal from Legislator Regan 5/22/2026

**A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM BY
ADDING CHAPTER 223, ENTITLED "TAXPAYER ACCESS ACT"**

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

Section I.

Chapter 223 of the Code of the County of Putnam is hereby added as provided hereinafter:

**CHAPTER 223
TAXPAYER ACCESS ACT**

§ 223-1 Title.

§ 223-2 Legislative intent.

§ 223-3 Searchable budget database website created.

§ 223-4 Severability.

§ 223-1 Title.

This chapter of the Code of Putnam County shall be entitled and known as the "Taxpayer Access Act."

§ 223-2 Legislative intent.

The Legislature finds that taxpayers should have easy access to information on how the County is spending their tax dollars, what performance results are achieved for those expenditures, and the legislative process in general regarding County spending. It is further the intent that this access can be achieved by transparency in the County budget process, including a searchable budget database website that provides one centralized location with easier access to this information.

§ 223-3 Searchable budget database website created.

Putnam County shall maintain and make publicly available a single, searchable budget database website including the required data comprising and required for the most recent County budget, and shall maintain all budget documents passed in an accessible archive from the date of enactment forward. The website shall be given a unique website address and a link to that address shall be on the County's official website.

§ 223-4 Severability.

If any part or provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent

Proposal from Legislator Regan 5/22/2026

jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this chapter or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances. The County of Putnam hereby declares that it would have passed this chapter or the remainder thereof had such invalid application or invalid provision been apparent.

Section II.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon the filing with the Secretary of State.

WHEREAS, Putnam County allocated its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds pursuant to Resolution # 135 of 2022, with a focus on infrastructure related to school safety, mental health, substance abuse, food insecurity, clean water, roads, bridges and buildings; and

WHEREAS, a budgetary amendment was made pursuant to Resolution #135 of 2022 wherein \$2,500,000 was appropriated for a Stabilization Center; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County issued an RFP for the establishment and operation of a 24 hour a day, 7 day per week Crisis Stabilization Center in Putnam County to which People USA responded; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County contracted with People USA to establish and operate a 24-hour a day, 7 day per week Crisis Stabilization Center in Putnam County and that the County would provide \$2,500,000 in ARPA funding for the project; and

WHEREAS, any ARPA funds need to be expended prior to the December 31, 2026 deadline set by the U.S. Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the County and People USA agreed to a June 1, 2026 deadline in the contract to allow the County time to reallocate the funds timely if needed; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Treasury allows APRA recipients to reallocate ARPA funds to a new contract after the December 31, 2024 deadline if the recipient and contractor mutually agree to terminate the contract for convenience; and

WHEREAS, due to circumstances beyond the County's control, it has become clear that People USA will not be able to perform under the contract to deliver a 24 hour a day, 7 day per week Crisis Stabilization Center in Putnam County, and that People USA has not expended the funds by the June 1, 2026 in accordance with the terms of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Administration requests that the remaining funds (\$2,147,000) be reallocated to ARPA-eligible County-wide paving projects; and

WHEREAS, that paving is an allowable use of ARPA funds; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance, and the County Auditor have reviewed and recommended said reallocation; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has reviewed and recommended said reallocation; and

WHEREAS, the _____ Committee has reviewed and approved of this request; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$2,147,000 of ARPA funds from the Stabilization Center project be reallocated to County-wide paving projects.

PUTNAM COUNTY
EXECUTED CONTRACTS
MAY 2026

CONTRACT	STATUS	DESCRIPTION	YEAR	PERIOD	REVISED TOTAL	VENDOR	DEPARTMENT
2025221	POSTED	Forensic Evaluations	2026	1	31,000.00	JUANITA PATRICIA GUERRA	DSS
2025237	POSTED	Non Residential Services	2026	1	118,080.00	PUTNAM NORTHERN-WESTCHESTER WOMENS RESOURCE CENTER	DSS
2025248	POSTED	Camp Herrlich - Youth Services STSJP	2026	1	76,100.00	MT TREMPER OUTDOOR MINISTRIES, INC	DSS
2025251	POSTED	CAC - Medical Evaluations	2026	1	12,000.00	WESTCHESTER INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	DSS
2026040	POSTED	SUPPORTED HOUSING, RESPITE, SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT	2026	3	2,470,434.00	SEARCH FOR CHANGE	MENTAL HEALTH
2026051	POSTED	JAIL SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES - MAT	2026	3	133,222.00	PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT	MENTAL HEALTH
2026061	POSTED	DSS/FOSTER CARE	2026	5	200,000.00	SAINT ANNE INSTITUTE	DSS
2026062	POSTED	SHERIFF/IMA MUTUAL AID & RAPID RESPONSE PLAN	2026	5	1.00	WESTCHESTER COUNTY	SHERIFF
2026064	POSTED	DSS/FOSTER CARE	2026	5	100,000.00	BERKSHIRE FARM CENTER & SERVICES	DSS
2026066	POSTED	DSS/FOSTER CARE	2026	5	170,000.00	ABBOTT HOUSE	DSS
2026067	POSTED	DSS/FOSTER CARE	2026	5	145,000.00	GREEN CHIMNEYS CHILDREN'S SERVICES,	DSS
2026068	POSTED	DSS/FOSTER CARE	2026	5	105,000.00	LASALLE SCHOOL	DSS
2026069	POSTED	DSS/NYS OFF. TEMP & DISAB ASSIST	2026	5	20,000.00	WESTCHESTER INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEV	DSS
2026073	POSTED	HEALTH/RABIES VACC CLINIC	2026	5	3,000.00	JENNIFER BUCCI, V.M.D., PC	HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2026 JUN -4 AM 11:21

LEGISLATURE
PUTNAM COUNTY
CARMEL, NY

#7

#8
June 9, 2026
Rules Meeting

#8. FYI – Litigation Report