

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512
(Chairman Gouldman and Legislators Birmingham & Ellner)**

Thursday

6:00p.m.

November 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairman Gouldman who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Gouldman and Legislator Birmingham were present. Legislator Ellner was absent.

Item #3 - Approval – Fund Transfer 25T402 – Tourism – Cover Costs for Travel Taste, Tour Global Heroes Ad/Feature and other Holiday Ads

Chairman Gouldman asked Tara Keegan, Director of Tourism to speak about this item.

Director Keegan stated that this transfer is of no fiscal impact and the funds are needed to cover advertising.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if the advertising will be in the Wall St. Journal.

Director Keegan confirmed that Global Heroes is under the Wall St. Journal and that Travel Taste is a national magazine with local ads.

Legislator Birmingham questioned whether Travel Taste is an annual or periodical magazine where we would have ads each year.

Director Keegan confirmed that it is a periodical and that ads are for the Winter edition.

Legislator Sayegh asked if Travel and Taste is also an online publication.

Director Keegan confirmed that ads were in the Fall edition, it is a print and digital publication, and now there is a new and fiscally viable opportunity.

Legislator Sayegh stated that she saw the Fall edition online and questioned if the ads were for the Winter online edition and if ads link to the county Tourism website.

Director Keegan confirmed and stated that this is a new opportunity at a good cost.

Legislator Sayegh asked if there was traction from the Fall ads and if that is tracked.

Director Keegan said statistics are not available yet, but the pay rates are usually good, based on her discussions with Travel and Taste.

Legislator Gouldman made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 25T402; Seconded by Legislator Birmingham. All in favor.

Item #4 – Approval - Putnam County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) – Board Appointment & Reappointments – Hartford, Cooke and Nulk

Chairman Gouldman asked Bill Nulk, Chairman of the IDA to discuss this item.

Chairman Nulk stated that with the confirmations at hand, the IDA will be back up to full strength, and with new member Hartford's confirmation, that will complete board representation for each of the towns in Putnam County. He stated that the IDA is working efficiently now, with a part-time Executive Director and an administrative associate. He stated that the books are up to date and that IDA's website is fully compliant.

Chairman Gouldman stated that in his opinion, this is due to Chairman Nulk's leadership.

Chairman Nulk stated that there is good news regarding the Pugsley Road project and that the 3,000 square foot building on Pugsley Road was purchased by Lesser Evil Healthy Snacks LLC, through owning agency 101 Pugsley Ltd. He stated that Lesser Evil is a good company under the Hershey umbrella and that property and sales tax assessments have tripled. He stated that the other 6,000 square foot building is in negotiations now and hopefully something will happen next year.

Chairman Gouldman asked about the appointments at hand.

Chairman Nulk stated that he and Vice Chairman Cook are seeking reappointment for three-year terms, and that James Hartford, who is seeking appointment, is an architect with an excellent resume and experience and interest in innovations in architecture, building and clean energy, with a term from December 1 through December 31, 2029.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if the term for Mr. Hartford ends in 2028.

Chairman Nulk confirmed that the term ends on December 31, 2028, and that there are two sets of board members three-year terms, to maintain efficiency and knowledge on the IDA board.

William Carlin, Commissioner of Finance, congratulated Chairman Nulk on his career of service and for always going above and beyond in his role.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve the appointment and reappointments; Seconded by Legislator Birmingham. All in favor.

Item #5 – Other Business (None)

Item #6. - Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:10 P.M., Chairman Gouldman made a motion to adjourn;
Seconded by Legislator Birmingham. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Mary Dechiaro.