

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Held In Room 318**  
**PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING**  
**CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**Members: Chairwoman Nacerino, Legislators Castellano & DiCarlo**

**Wednesday** **5:30 P.M.** **August 14, 2013**  
**(Protective Services Mtg Will Immediately Follow)**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairwoman Nacerino who requested Legislator Castellano lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Castellano, DiCarlo and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

**Item #3) Approval of Minutes – June 18, 2013**  
**July 16, 2013**  
**July 30, 2013 – Special Rules Mtg**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Item #4) Discussion/Mow & Blow Bond Requirement/Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Spadaccini**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated students who were seasonal workers were exempt and that a two year registration is \$250. She stated that registration is required, which means the person only has to show documents. She stated that bonds are required for registrations and could range from \$140 to \$400 depending on risk and liability. She stated that when applying for a bond, credit rating must be considered. She stated that at the previous meeting, the question of a bond requirement was deferred to the Law Department.

Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Spadaccini stated the points made during the discussion from the last meeting were accurate. She stated that after that meeting, she contacted the County's insurance agent. She stated that the bond requirement is not black and white, it is a policy issue. She stated that the reason the bond is required is if a sum of money needs to be paid up front, that homeowners have the worry that the person may leave halfway through the job. She stated that however, with lawn maintenance this is usually not the case. She stated that the bond has been required to err on the side of caution but the Legislature can decide to go in a different direction.

Director of Consumer Affairs Jean Marie Noel stated that this is an enforcement issue. She stated that a bond is not required in Westchester for any home improvement. She stated that over half of the lawn maintenance workers in Putnam County are coming from Westchester County and they follow the requirements of this County and get bonds with no problem.

Legislator Oliverio stated the bond was their issue and they did not understand what it did for them.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned if the County ever had to call a bond.

Director Noel stated not since she has been here.

Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Spadaccini stated no, they have not.

Chairwoman Nacerino asked if this point is moot then why put that extra burden on the small businessman.

Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Spadaccini stated they have given homeowners information on the bonds but not in reference to the lawn maintenance.

Legislator Albano stated he has seen two bonds be paid out and in those cases, money was paid up front, half the job was done and the worker left. He stated that some people do not qualify for bonds.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated there is small opportunity to give the small businessman relief. She stated that if there is no proof of bonds being called in and it is an expenditure on our end, there is money being expended on both ends.

Director Noel stated that all other categories should be looked at to see who applies.

Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Spadaccini stated that it protects homeowners. She stated that along with Deputy County Attorney Jonathan Engel, they can revise the lawn maintenance section of the law.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #5) Approval/Local Law to Amend Chapter 190 Entitled “Plumbing and Mechanical Trades”**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the County has been working on the trade laws for several months and are not ready to move them forward. She stated that Chairman of the Legislature Othmer would like to remove the helpers’ card clause in the plumber’s law. She stated that this law gives the plumber latitude for getting an extra set of hands.

Deputy County Attorney Jonathan Engel stated he reviewed the suggested changes and would like to discuss it with the Plumbing Board at their meeting tomorrow. He stated that in terms of journeymen, the definition is closely tied to the helper so he would like to clarify with the Plumbing Board.

Legislator Oliverio questioned if the term 'journeymen' could be isolated.

Deputy County Attorney Engel stated he needs clarification from the Plumbing Board.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated she would like to amend the language after the Plumbing Board meeting.

Legislator Albano stated that there are individuals that would like to document their hours to work towards a plumber's license and there are helpers that are not working towards a license. He believed the removal of the helpers clause is right thing to do.

Legislator Nacerino stated Chairman of the Legislature Othmer agrees.

Director Noel stated the budgetary consideration is less than \$500.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to move forward pending the change at the Plumbing Board meeting, seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #6) Other Business - None**

There being no further business, at 5:47 P.M., Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Green, Administrative Assistant.