

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
HELD VIA AUDIO WEBINAR PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 417 OF THE LAWS OF 2021**

Tuesday January 4, 2022 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by County Clerk Michael Bartolotti who requested Legislator Jonke to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. County Clerk Bartolotti then requested Legislator Addonizio to lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Albano, Jonke, Castellano, Sayegh and Sullivan were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Firriolo.

Item #4 – Appointment/Chair/Putnam County Legislature was called first. County Clerk Bartolotti requested nominations from the floor for Chair of the Legislature.

Legislator Addonizio made a motion to nominate Legislator Sullivan as Chairman; seconded by Legislator Albano.

Legislator Albano stated that Legislator Sullivan is a Certified Public Accountant. He explained that Legislator Sullivan has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Legislative body.

Legislator Addonizio stated that as Chair of the Legislature for the past two (2) years, we have faced many challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated during that time Legislator Sullivan served as Deputy Chair. She stated that he has strong community ties and serves on the Rotary, Knights of Columbus and the Chamber of Commerce. She stated that he is a local business owner for over 20 years. He is a Certified Public Accountant and holds an MBA. She stated that one (1) of his top priorities is to protect the taxpayers of the County. She stated that he served on several Legislative Committees and has Chaired the Rules Committee for the last two (2) years. She believed that his knowledge and experience would benefit all residents of Putnam County.

County Clerk Bartolotti asked if there were any other nominations.

Legislator Montgomery made a motion to nominate herself.

County Clerk Bartolotti stated seeing no second on Legislator Montgomery's motion, he asked for a roll call vote on the first nomination for Legislator Sullivan.

Legislator Montgomery asked for discussion. She stated that she was surprised that there were no other nominations. She explained that she had concerns about moving this nomination forward based on his past behavior during meetings. She believed he would not be a good fit as Chair, based on her own personal experience of how she has been treated by him. She was especially concerned about behaviors during executive sessions and was uncertain how things discussed were released to NBC. She believed that the behavior was politically motivated. She stated that she brought items forward to him, as Chair of the Rules Committee, which have been completely ignored. She stated

that her concern was that items being brought to him as Chair of the Legislature would be ignored. She believed the people of Putnam County deserved stronger leadership.

RESOLUTION #1

APPOINTMENT/ CHAIR/ PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RESOLVED, that Neal L. Sullivan be appointed to the position of Chair of the Putnam County Legislature, with all the rights, privileges and duties of the office as set forth in the Putnam County Charter as permitted by law for a period ending December 31, 2022.

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

Item #5 – Appointment/Deputy Chair/Putnam County Legislature was next. Chairman Sullivan asked if there were any nominations for Deputy Chair.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to nominate Legislator Jonke as Deputy Chair for the year 2022.

Legislator Castellano stated that Legislator Jonke has been on the Legislature for five (5) years and has served as Chairman on both the Personnel Committee and the Protective Services Committee. He stated that Legislator Jonke has done a fantastic job and he looked forward to working with him as Deputy Chair of the Putnam County Legislature.

Legislator Albano stated that he would be honored to second that motion.

Chairman Sullivan stated seeing no further nominations, he requested a roll call vote on the nomination for Legislator Jonke.

RESOLUTION #2

APPOINTMENT/ DEPUTY CHAIR/ PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RESOLVED, that Paul Jonke be appointed to the position of Deputy Chair of the Putnam County Legislature, with all the rights privileges and duties of the office as set forth in the Putnam County Charter, as permitted by law for a period ending December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. TWO NAYS – LEGISLATORS NACERINO & SAYEGH. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6 – Re-Appointment/County Auditor was called next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

Legislator Albano stated that County Auditor Sharkey does a fantastic job, and we were lucky to have her.

Legislator Montgomery thanked County Auditor Sharkey for her hard work and the information she has provided her. She stated that when she asks County Auditor Sharkey for something, she provides the information requested two (2) seconds later via email. She explained that she was happy to support this appointment.

RESOLUTION #3

RE-APPOINTMENT/COUNTY AUDITOR

RESOLVED, that Michele Alfano-Sharkey be re-appointed to the position of County Auditor, with all the rights, privileges and duties of the Office as set forth in the Putnam County Charter, as permitted by law for a three-year term period ending December 31, 2024.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #7 – Adoption of Legislative Manual was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.

RESOLUTION #4

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE MANUAL

WHEREAS, Section 2, Sub-division B(1)(f) of the Legislative Manual requires that the Legislature adopt annually its Legislative Manual, including any amendments incorporated therein; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature adopts the annexed Legislative Manual for the year 2022.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #8 – Adoption of Legislative Calendar was next. Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Jonke.

RESOLUTION #5

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

WHEREAS, the Legislative Manual for the Legislature of the County of Putnam provides that annually the Legislative Calendar shall be adopted and promulgated by the Clerk of the Legislature, that the Legislature meets on the first Tuesday of each and every month thereof, except where noted; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following schedule be adopted as to Regular Meeting dates of the Putnam County Legislature for the year 2022:

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| Tuesday | January 4, 2022 |
| Tuesday | February 1, 2022 |
| Tuesday | March 1, 2022 |
| Tuesday | April 5, 2022 |

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Tuesday | May 3, 2022 |
| Tuesday | June 7, 2022 |
| Tuesday | July 5, 2022 |
| Tuesday | August 2, 2022 |
| Tuesday | September 6, 2022 |
| Wednesday | October 5, 2022 |
| Tuesday | November 1, 2022 |
| Tuesday | December 6, 2022 |

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #9 – Designation of Official Newspaper was next. Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.

Legislator Montgomery explained that the letter from the Putnam County Press referenced the County as the Town of Putnam. She hoped that we could count on the Press to report correctly.

RESOLUTION #6

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2.04 (k) of the Putnam County Charter, the following newspaper, to wit:

Putnam County Press

is hereby designated as an official newspaper of the County of Putnam for the publication of all concurrent resolutions, election notices, official canvasses, enactments and other matters required by law to be published for the year 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #10 – Designation of Official Newspaper was next. Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.

RESOLUTION #7

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2.04 (k) of the Putnam County Charter, the following newspaper, to wit:

Putnam County News & Recorder

is hereby designated as an official newspaper of the County of Putnam for the publication of all concurrent resolutions, election notices, official canvasses, enactments and other matters required by law to be published for the year 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #11 – Designation of Official Newspaper was next. Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.

RESOLUTION #8

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2.04 (k) of the Putnam County Charter, the following newspaper, to wit:

Putnam County Courier

is hereby designated as an official newspaper of the County of Putnam for the publication of all concurrent resolutions, election notices, official canvasses, enactments and other matters required by law to be published for the year 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #12 – Permission for Legislature to Attend Conferences, Seminars & Official Business for the County was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.

RESOLUTION #9

PERMISSION FOR LEGISLATURE TO ATTEND CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE COUNTY

RESOLVED, that Legislators and Legislative Staff be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred while attending conferences, seminars and official business of the County for the year 2022 for any such event costing under \$200.00. Any such event costing over \$200.00 will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Legislature.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #13 – Authorization for County Auditor to Approve Erroneous Assessments Under \$2,500 was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Albano and Addonizio.

RESOLUTION #10

AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY AUDITOR TO APPROVE ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS UNDER \$2,500

WHEREAS, Chapter 515 of the Laws of 1997 authorizes a tax levying body, by resolution, to delegate to an official who is empowered to authorize the payment of bills

without prior audit by such board, the authority to perform the duties of the tax levying body as specified in Section 556(8) of the Real Property Tax Law; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature hereby delegates to the County Auditor the authority to review and approve applications for refunds of taxes due to erroneous assessments, whether by clerical error or unlawful entry, and where the recommended refund is \$2,500 or less; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to statute, this authority shall expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #14 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Cooperative Extension Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Jonke.

RESOLUTION #11

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ COOPERATIVE EXTENSION BOARD

RESOLVED, that Carl L. Albano be appointed as the Legislative Representative to the Cooperative Extension Board for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #15 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Jury Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Castellano and Nacerino.

RESOLUTION #12

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ JURY BOARD

RESOLVED, that Toni Addonizio be appointed Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Jury Board for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #16 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Region 3 Forest Practice Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

RESOLUTION #13

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ REGION 3 FOREST PRACTICE BOARD

RESOLVED, that Nancy Montgomery be appointed Legislative Representative to the Region 3 Forest Practice Board for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #17 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

RESOLUTION #14

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/ PUTNAM COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD

RESOLVED, that Amy Sayegh and Carl L. Albano be appointed Legislative Representatives to the Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board for a one-year term, said term to expire December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #18 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Records Management Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.

RESOLUTION #15

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ RECORDS MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLVED, that Paul Jonke be appointed Legislative Representative to the Records Management Board for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #19 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Board of Health was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Albano and Nacerino.

RESOLUTION #16

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/ PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

RESOLVED, that Amy Sayegh be appointed as Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Board of Health for a period of six (6) years, said term to expire December 31, 2027.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #20 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Putnam County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.

RESOLUTION #17

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ PUTNAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD

RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino be appointed as the Legislative Representative to the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #21 – Appointment/Putnam County Representative/Catskill Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Albano and Nacerino.

RESOLUTION #18

APPOINTMENT/ PUTNAM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE/ CATSKILL REGIONAL OFF-TRACK BETTING CORPORATION BOARD

RESOLVED, that Vincent Tamagna be appointed as the Putnam County representative to the Catskill Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation Board, for a one-year term, said term to expire on December 31, 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this appointment comply with any requirements to file an Oath of Office pursuant to the New York State Public Officers Law.

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

Item #22 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Fish & Wildlife Management Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Addonizio and Sayegh.

RESOLUTION #19

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLVED, that Nancy Montgomery be appointed as Legislative Representative on the Fish and Wildlife Management Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #23 – Appointment/Law Library Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

RESOLUTION #20

APPOINTMENT/ LAW LIBRARY BOARD

RESOLVED, that Paul Jonke be appointed to the Law Library Board for a one (1) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Carl L. Albano shall serve as an Alternate to the Law Library Board for a one (1) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #24 - Appointment/Legislative Liaison/Veterans Affairs was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Sayegh.

RESOLUTION #21

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE LIAISON/ VETERANS AFFAIRS

RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino be appointed Legislative Liaison for Veterans Affairs for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire December 31, 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Joseph Castellano shall serve as an Alternate as Legislative Liaison for Veterans Affairs for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #25 – Approval/Appointment/ Legislative Representative/ Putnam County Traffic Safety Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.

RESOLUTION #22

APPROVAL/ APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/ PUTNAM COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

RESOLVED, that William Gouldman and Neal L. Sullivan be appointed as the Legislative Representatives to the Putnam County Traffic Safety Board for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #26 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Fire Advisory Board was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Addonizio and Jonke.

RESOLUTION #23

APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/ PUTNAM COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino be appointed as Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Fire Advisory Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Amy Sayegh will serve as an Alternate to the Putnam County Fire Advisory Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #27 – Approval/Appointment/ Budget & Finance Committee Representative / Capital Projects Committee was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

RESOLUTION #24

APPOINTMENT/ BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE/ CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, County Charter § 7.05 (B)(3) provides that there shall be a Capital Projects Committee consisting of various members including a designee of the Budget and Finance Committee; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Carl L. Albano be appointed as Budget & Finance Committee Representative to the County’s Capital Projects Committee for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #28 – Approval/ Appointment/ Additional Legislative Representative Member of Capital Projects Committee was next. Chairman Sullivan moved the following; seconded by Legislators Castellano and Nacerino.

RESOLUTION #25

APPOINTMENT/ ADDITIONAL LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER OF CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, County Charter § 7.05 (B)(3) provides for the appointment to the County’s Capital Projects Committee a member of the County Legislature representing the minority political party, if another party is represented, or a member elected without party endorsement; and

WHEREAS, Legislator Nancy Montgomery is the sole member of the County Legislature representing the minority political party; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to County Charter § 7.05 (B)(3), the County Legislature designates Nancy Montgomery as the additional member of the County's Capital Projects Committee for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire on December 31, 2022.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #29 – Confirmation/ Designation of Jail Chief Medical Officer was next. Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.

Legislator Montgomery explained that we received two (2) letters from the NYS Department of Health Commissioner Howard Zucker, both stating that the Putnam County Health Commissioner dedicate 100% of his time being the Health Commissioner. She believed this appointment did not follow that rule. She stated that it is a State law and we also have it in our County Charter. She believed, especially during this pandemic, it was critical to the public's health in Putnam County that our Health Commissioner dedicate 100% of his duties being the Health Commissioner and not to hold other titles as; Coroner, Coordinator of Coroners and Jail Physician. She believed there was an extensive outbreak currently at the Jail which she believed takes up a lot of his time. She stated that we are also seeing the highest infection rate since the beginning of this pandemic in Putnam County. She stated that we still have a long way to go in protecting public health. She believed that we need a Health Commissioner whose duties are 100% devoted to the Health Department and public health of Putnam County and not the Jail.

Legislator Albano stated that Dr. Nesheiwat has given more than 100% to his duties as Health Commissioner. He stated that he does a fantastic job and has also been able to perform his duties as Jail Chief Medical Officer. He stated that he could not think of a better candidate and totally supported this.

Legislator Sayegh stated that this has been vetted year after year. She stated that Dr. Nesheiwat devotes 100% of his time at the Jail when he is supposed to be there, and he devotes 100% of his time as Health Commissioner for the time he is supposed to be there. She stated that he is a very well qualified respected physician. She believes 100% in him and his abilities.

Legislator Montgomery stated that she was not speaking about the Commissioner's abilities. She did not understand how a person could dedicate more than 100% of their time when 100% of time is all you have. She stated that we are in the middle of a pandemic, and it was not wise, and it is not good public health practice. She stated that we have two (2) letters from Howard Zucker stating that the Health Commissioner is to dedicate 100% of his time being the Health Commissioner. She stated that we are violating the County Charter and the State health law.

Legislator Albano stated that the letter states he should devote full time to that position; not 100%. He stated that nobody works 24 hours per day, although Dr. Nesheiwat does a good job at coming close to that.

Legislator Castellano stated that Dr. Nesheiwat does a fantastic job. He believed that we discuss this every year. He stated that PrimeCare has proposed that Dr. Nesheiwat continue to act as the Chief Medical Officer for the Jail. He believed that this was a great thing to do, and he was happy to support it.

Chairman Sullivan stated that Dr. Nesheiwat gives 100% of his time to the residents of Putnam County in protecting them and making sure that they are safe and healthy. He believed that we were at the end of the pandemic and the beginning of an endemic.

RESOLUTION #26

DESIGNATION OF JAIL CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

WHEREAS, due to a change in the Corrections Law, Section 501 in July of 2017, a physician from the medical services provider to the Putnam County Jail shall be designated by the Putnam County Legislature to act as the Chief Medical Officer of the Jail; and

WHEREAS, PrimeCare was awarded the RFP to provide medical services for the Putnam County Corrections Facility initially through December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County has exercised the contractual option to extend Prime Care's contract under the terms of the RFP response through December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, PrimeCare has proposed Dr. Michael Nesheiwat to continue to act as the Chief Medical Officer for the Jail; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby designates of Dr. Michael Nesheiwat to act as the Chief Medical Officer for the Putnam County Corrections Facility, for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire December 31, 2022.

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

Item #30 – Approval/Purchasing Department/Identifying Individuals Responsible for Purchasing was next. Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

RESOLUTION #27

APPROVAL/ PURCHASING DEPARTMENT/ IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING

WHEREAS, Section 140-1.5 of the Putnam County Code (Procurement Policy) requires the Legislature to annually identify the individuals responsible for purchasing and their respective titles; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature re-affirms the County's Procurement Policy as contained in Chapter 140 of the Putnam County Code and identifies the following individuals and their respective titles as the individuals responsible for purchasing:

- a. Alessandro Mazzotta, Director of Purchasing
- b. Alexis Hawley, Assistant Supervisor of Planning and Design
- c. Michele Pinto, Account Clerk

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #31 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (22A001)/ Health Department/ NYS Fellowship Program Grant was next (Approved at December Personnel & Audit Mtgs). On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Chairman Sullivan made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislator Addonizio.

RESOLUTION #28

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (22A001)/ HEALTH DEPARTMENT/ NYS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, through the New York State Department of Health, Putnam County was awarded grant funding for the New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program that will build public health capacity to support COVID-19 response operations and increase preparedness for future public health emergencies; and

WHEREAS, a total of \$1,111,174.00 over the next two (2) years (\$555,587.00) annually is available through the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sponsored cooperative agreement for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC); and

WHEREAS, the current end date for this pool of funding is 7/31/23 and budget amounts were calculated at 12 months of funding needed to fund program from 1/1/22 – 12/31/22; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County is budgeting for two (2) Public Health Fellows at an annual salary of \$50,000 each, one (1) Public Health Graduate Fellow at an annual of \$60,000 and one (1) Local Coordinator at a salary of \$55,000; and

WHEREAS, fringes for all three (3) Fellows have been budgeted for a 12 month period; and

WHEREAS, recommended salaries and job specifications were provided by the Personnel Department based on scope of duties and compensation from surrounding counties; and

WHEREAS, in addition to salaries and benefits, funding will be provided for four (4) L-shaped desks with built in cubicle walls and file drawers to set up a four-person workspace in the Putnam County Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, office chairs, computers, licensing software, basic office supplies and mileage reimbursements are also included in this amendment; and

WHEREAS, at the December 2021 Personnel Committee and Audit & Administration Committee, said budgetary amendment was reviewed and approved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

26401001 51000 10173

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Pos # 401055102 | Personnel Services | 50,000 |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|

26401001 51000 10173

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Pos # 401055103 | Personnel Services | 50,000 |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|

26401001 51000 10173

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Pos # 401055104 | Personnel Services | 55,000 |
| 26401001 51000 10173 | | |
| Pos # 401055105 | Personnel Services | 60,000 |
| 26401001 52110 10173 | Furniture | 8,000 |
| 26401001 52130 10173 | Computer Equipment | 4,400 |
| 26401001 54310 10173 | Office Supplies | 2,000 |
| 26401001 54675 10173 | Travel | 1,000 |
| 26401001 54782 10173 | Software Accessories | 500 |
| 26401001 54783 10173 | Software Licensing | 1,800 |
| 26401001 58001 10173 | Retirement | 13,906 |
| 26401001 58002 10173 | FICA | 16,448 |
| 26401001 58004 10173 | Workers Comp | 2,846 |
| 26401001 58006 10173 | Dental | 7,676 |
| 26401001 58008 10173 | Health Insurance | <u>92,860</u> |
| | | 366,436 |
| Increase Estimated Revenues: | | |
| 26401001 444892 10173 | State Aid – NYS Health Fellowship | 366,436 |

2022 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #32 - Approval/ Budgetary Transfer (22T001)/ District Attorney/ Reorganization/ Increase Part Time Office Assistant Position to Full Time Position was next (Approved at December Personnel & Audit Mtgs). On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Chairman Sullivan moved the following:

RESOLUTION #29

**APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY TRANSFER (22T001)/ DISTRICT ATTORNEY/
REORGANIZATION/ INCREASE PART TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITION TO FULL
TIME POSITION**

WHEREAS, due to the additional workload caused by the New York Bail Reform and Discovery laws, the District Attorney has submitted a request to increase the Part Time Office Assistant Position to a Full Time Position; and

WHEREAS, the additional cost will be funded by contingency unless the County receives a renewal of the Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant, which will then offset 100% of the additional costs; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney has requested a budgetary transfer (22T001) to account for the Full Time Position effective January 1, 2022, at an annual salary of \$44,106; and

WHEREAS, at the December 2021 Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee, said budgetary transfer was reviewed and approved; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby approves the reorganization in the District Attorney’s Office, increasing the Part Time Office Assistant Position to a Full Time Office Assistant Position; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfer be made:**

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 10116500 51000 (121) | Office Assistant | 12,601 |
| 10116500 58001 | Retirement | 813 |
| 13398900 58002 | FICA | 964 |
| 13398900 58004 | Workers Compensation | 167 |
| 13398900 58008 | Health | <u>10,047</u> |
| | | 24,592 |

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------|
| 10199000 54980 | Contingency | 24,592 |
|----------------|-------------|--------|

2022 Fiscal Impact \$24,592

2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #33 - Approval/ Budgetary Transfer (22T002)/ Commissioner of Finance/ EMS Contract/ Ambulance Services Per Awarded Request for Proposal (RFP) was next (Approved at December Protective Services & Audit Mtgs). On behalf of the Protective Services Committee, Chairman Sullivan moved the following:

Legislator Gouldman stated that he would be voting no on this. He stated that he has had discussions with the Putnam Valley Ambulance Corps and a few other Ambulance Corps. He stated that they do not believe the current situation with Ambulnz is the best move the County could make. He explained that his “no” vote sends a message that some individuals are not happy with the situation.

Legislator Montgomery stated that she has not heard from any Ambulance Corps or first responders yet that this is a good thing. She stated that she is still receiving comments from the participating agencies who will be affected by this that they are not happy. She understands that this proposal could be good for the County, could save the County money and could be a better service, however we just do not know. She stated that she trusts the people that perform this type of work and know what is good for their agencies. She stated that the primary reason she would be voting no was that she still did not have a copy of the contract which she has requested several times. She explained that the agencies do not know how this proposal will affect their operations, budgets, or town budgets. She believed there were too many unknowns. She stated that she would still like a copy of the contract.

Legislator Albano stated that the contract was reviewed by several different departments. He stated that during the Audit Committee meeting there were a lot of questions and concerns addressed which he was pleased were answered. He stated that he was hopeful that it was a good contract. He stated that we are not approving any contracts as that falls under the purview of the County Executive’s office. He explained that we are approving what we are obligated to pay on the contract.

Legislator Nacerino stated that as the liaison to the Fire Advisory Board, she was well aware of the concerns that have been brought forth. She stated that the contract has taken effect January 1st and she hoped that moving forward Ambulnz will prove to alleviate those concerns. She stated that she knows they have met with the Town of Patterson, along with other municipalities, to alleviate some of the current concerns brought forth.

RESOLUTION #30

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY TRANSFER (22T002)/ COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE/ EMS CONTRACT/ AMBULANCE SERVICES PER AWARDED Request for Proposal (RFP)

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary transfer (22T002) to provide funding for the EMS Contract relating to ambulance services per awarded RFP; and

WHEREAS, funds were placed in subcontingency since the award came after the budget was adopted; and

WHEREAS, at the December 2021 Protective Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee, said budgetary transfer was reviewed and approved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfer be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------|--------|
| 14398900 54646 | Contracts | 40,467 |
|----------------|-----------|--------|

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------|
| 10199000 54981 | Subcontingency | 40,467 |
|----------------|----------------|--------|

2022 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2023 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. TWO NAYS – LEGISLATORS GOULDMAN & MONTGOMERY. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #34 – Approval/ Deputy Commissioner of Social Services/ Mental Health & Youth Bureau/ Salary Increase was next. On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Chairman Sullivan moved the following:

RESOLUTION #31

APPROVAL/ DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES/ MENTAL HEALTH & YOUTH BUREAU/ SALARY INCREASE

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Social Services has requested a salary increase of \$4,872 for the Deputy Commissioner of Social Services, Mental Health & Youth Bureau position in 2022 Budget from \$113,128 to \$118,000 annually effective 2/01/22; and

WHEREAS, said request was approved by both the County Executive and the Personnel Director; and

WHEREAS, no budgetary amendment is required since the savings generated from the one (1) month vacancy in January 2022 is greater than the salary increase; and WHEREAS, the December 2021 Personnel Committee reviewed and approved this request; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves the amendment to the 2022 Budget, increasing the salary of the Deputy Commissioner of Social Services, Mental Health & Youth Bureau position by \$4,872; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Resolution #259 of 2021, setting the Salaries for Officers and Employees Paid from County Funds, is hereby amended, allocating the \$4,872 increase in the following split positions for the Deputy Commissioner of Social Services, Mental Health & Youth Bureau effective February 1, 2022:

| Budget Line: | From: | To: |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 10431000 51000 (731010101) | 50,908 | 53,100 |
| 10120000 51000 (731010101) | 50,908 | 53,100 |
| 10731000 51000 (731010101) | <u>11,312</u> | <u>11,800</u> |
| | 113,128 | 118,000 |

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #35 – Other Business

There was no other business submitted to the meeting.

Item #36 – Recognition of Legislators

Legislator Montgomery clarified that Legislator Albano was correct that the letter from Harold Zucker does say full time, not 100%. She stated that the letter also states that the Commissioner must dedicate full time with no other assignments. She explained her concerns about Dr. Nesheiwat holding other titles, especially during a public health crisis. She congratulated Legislator Sullivan on being appointed as Chairman of the Legislature. She hoped that they could work through many of the difficulties they have had, and she hoped they could work together, despite their differences, for the people of Putnam County. She hoped that Chairman Sullivan would consider her qualifications when determining Committee assignments and she asked if she could be part of any discussions that take place while making that decision. She stated that she would like the opportunity to serve on the Health and Protective Committees, and she provided an explanation of her many qualifications. She believed that she could serve the Legislature well by serving on these Committees.

Legislator Albano believed that Legislator Montgomery's opinion on the Health Commissioner's job was inaccurate. Legislator Albano quoted the Putnam County Charter, Section 10.04(d) "the Commissioner/Public Health Director shall serve on a full-time basis and shall not be employed nor engage in any private practice in their field of expertise." He stated that this has been reviewed carefully by our Law Department and everything is in accordance with how it should be. He stated that his appointment is clearly permissible.

Legislator Nacerino congratulated Legislator Sullivan on becoming Chair of the Legislature and Legislator Jonke on becoming Deputy Chair. She wished everyone a happy and healthy new year. She looked forward to working with her colleagues in 2022 and recognizing that our differences of opinions must be mutually respected by all working in a cohesive manner moving forward.

Legislator Addonizio congratulated Legislators Sullivan and Jonke on their appointments as Chair and Deputy Chair. She also congratulated Legislators Nacerino, Castellano and Montgomery on their re-elections. She stated that she looked forward to a productive year.

Legislator Gouldman thanked Legislator Addonizio for serving as Chair of the Legislature for the last two (2) years, and as Deputy Chair prior to that. He stated that she did a great job, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic with holding meetings via audio webinar. He also congratulated Legislators Sullivan and Jonke on their appointments as Chair and Deputy Chair.

Legislator Sayegh concurred with Legislator Gouldman and thanked Legislator Addonizio for serving the past two (2) years as Chair and Legislator Sullivan as Deputy Chair. She stated that the past two (2) years have been difficult to navigate through COVID-19 with on-line meetings. She stated that Legislator Addonizio did a great job, and she appreciated her leadership throughout the pandemic. She welcomed and congratulated the new Chairman, Legislator Neal Sullivan and Deputy Chairman, Legislator Paul Jonke. She looked forward to a great year of good things to come in Putnam County. She stated that the Putnam County Department of Health and the NYS Department of Health have exceeded their capacity to perform contact tracing for all people who have tested positive for COVID. She explained that there were 2,000 people in Putnam County who have tested positive. She stated that Putnam County residents who test positive are asked to self-isolate and to notify their contacts. Those who have been exposed to someone who tested positive are being asked to self-quarantine. She stated that, in speaking with the NYS Department of Health today, they believed Putnam County was being pro-active. She asked everyone to please be safe as we make our way through the omicron spike which she hoped would be over at the end of January.

Chairman Sullivan thanked his colleagues for their support. He looked forward to a tremendous 2022. He thanked Legislator Addonizio for her leadership and guidance serving as Chair over the past two (2) difficult and unprecedented years. He congratulated Deputy Chair Jonke. He welcomed Sheriff Kevin J. McConville in becoming part of the Putnam County team. He stated that he looked forward to working closely with him over the coming year. He wished everyone a healthy and safe 2022.

There being no further business, at 8:10 P.M., Chairman Sullivan made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.