

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
HELD AT THE
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Thursday

October 3, 2024

7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Jonke who requested that Putnam County Civil Air Patrol present the colors for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Jonke requested that Sheriff Kevin McConville lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Legislator Nacerino to lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Castellano, Sayegh, Crowley and Chairman Jonke were present. Legislator Ellner was absent. Also present was Legislative Counsel Firriolo. Legislator Sayegh was called out of the meeting at 7:20 P.M. due to an emergency.

Item #4 – Committee to Meet with the County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance to Discuss the Proposed 2024 Budget.

Chairman Jonke stated that on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, the County Executive transmitted the 2025 Tentative Budget to the Legislature. Pursuant to the Putnam County Charter, the County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance are required to meet with the Budget and Finance Committee within five days after the transmittal of the Tentative Budget, to review that document with the Committee.

Chairman Jonke recognized the Commissioner of the Department of General Services (DGS) John Tully Director who then recognized the Elected Officials in attendance for the presentation.

Chairman Jonke introduced County Executive Kevin M. Byrne to present the Proposed 2025 Budget.

County Executive Byrne presented the (attached) 2025 Executive Budget as required by Section 7 of the Putnam County Charter.

Chairman Jonke thanked County Executive Byrne for his presentation of the 2025 Tentative Budget. He stated that the Legislature looks forward to reviewing the proposed budget during our Legislative Budget Committee meetings which are scheduled to begin on Monday, October 7, 2024. He stated that the meetings will be held in Room #318 of the County Office Building. Please check the calendar on the Legislative webpage for the dates and times of the Budget meetings scheduled for this month. He stated that a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget, as presented by the County Executive this evening, will be held by the Budget & Finance Committee of the Putnam County Legislature immediately following the closing of this meeting.

Chairman Jonke asked if any members of the Legislature would like to comment.

Legislator Montgomery thanked County Executive Byrne for his presentation. She stated that she was looking forward to working with her colleagues on the Legislature during

the month reviewing the budget for the people of Putnam County. She liked the sales tax exemption on clothing. She appreciated the County Executive's commitment in keeping the tax levy below the tax limit and using the general fund balance so that we do not have to bond. She stated that her wish for the past six (6) years as a Legislator is to invest in the County infrastructure, roads, bridges and housing. She explained that she sees a growing need for mental health resources for the 20- to 40-year-old population. She looks forward to working in collaboration with her colleagues to do what is best for the people of Putnam County. She looked forward to more Climate Smart initiatives.

There being no further business, at 8:07 P.M., Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.