

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Nacerino, Legislators Addonizio & Sayegh

Tuesday

December 17, 2024

(Rules Meeting Immediately Followed)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairwoman Nacerino who requested Legislator Jonke lead in the pledge of allegiance. Upon roll call Legislator Sayegh and Chairwoman Nacerino were present. Legislator Addonizio was absent.

Item #3 – Acceptance/ Protective Services Meeting Minutes/ October 10, 2024

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A121/ Request to Use Revenue Received for Services Rendered by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office to Cover Overtime Expenses for Respective Departments/ Sheriff Kevin McConville

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this is for incoming funds that will be used to cover overtime expense. She stated there is no fiscal impact.

Sheriff McConville confirmed that was correct. He explained the reimbursement to the Sheriff's Office is for services provided to various entities for the Schools. He stated reimbursement from the schools is just starting to be received.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 24A121/ Request to Use Revenue Received for Services Rendered by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office to Cover Overtime Expenses for Respective Departments; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #5 – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A123/ Sheriff's Office / Reimbursement from NYMIR for Repairs to Vehicles and Reimbursement from NYS Sheriff's Association for DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) Philadelphia Field Certification/ Sheriff Kevin McConville

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this reimbursement comes from NYMIR.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 24A123/ Sheriff's Office / Reimbursement from NYMIR for Repairs to Vehicles and Reimbursement from NYS Sheriff's Association for DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) Philadelphia Field Certification; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A124/ Sheriff's Office/ Federal Seized Asset Forfeiture Funds – Purchase Firearms Related Equipment/ Sheriff Kevin McConville

Chairwoman Nacerino stated Lieutenant Taylor is present to speak to this item.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated he has been a firearms instructor since 2013. He stated as time goes on technology improves and the ability to do things better improves. He stated this item (pistol mounted optical device) improves law enforcement. He stated approximately ten (10) years ago the technology became standardized, Rugged Eyes, it was an industry standard. He stated the ability to use these devices, Pistol Mounted Optics, allows for both eyes to remain open while shooting. He stated this allows the shooter to focus on whatever threat is ahead. He stated the traditional iron sites on a pistol the shooter is forced to focus on front site, rear site and the perceived threat. He stated the human eye can focus only on one thing at a time. He stated with these Optics you no longer have to close an eye, focus is on a front site and on whatever threat exists. He stated the greatest advantage of this equipment is that it allows the shooter to see the hands of the target. He stated the Optics allow for a wider field of vision, which is very important for law enforcement.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned if the focal point is in front of the Officer, does that create a disadvantage because there use to be a side mirror that was used to see what was behind an Officer.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated he brought additional backup that provides a visual of the difference between the Pistol Mounted Optics and the Iron Sights. He requested to be allowed to share it with the Committee.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Waive the Rules and Accept the Additional; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Sheriff McConville spoke to Chairwoman Nacerino's questioned and in summary he stated the Pistol Mounted Optical gives a greater field of vision.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division provided further details in terms of the difference and advantage of the Pistol Mounted Optical.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated there is a zero fiscal impact associated to this request.

Legislator Crowley stated she is in favor of this request and in moving forward with technology. She stated she had questions pertaining to qualifications and the holster. She questioned if there will be a need for new holsters.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated yes there will be new holsters needed and their cost is included in their requested amount.

Sheriff McConville stated regarding qualifications the DCJS and (Division of Criminal Justice Services) and MPTC (Municipal Police Training Committee) have been working the last few

months amending and modifying and working on qualifications and the training process. He stated whatever they come up with, the Putnam County Sheriff's Office will look to exceed it for their Personnel.

Legislator Crowley questioned if there is a weight difference between old versus the new.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated the new ones are a few ounces more in weight. He stated they have come a long way with aluminum technology, it makes the equipment much lighter.

Sheriff McConville stated they will have a very robust training period to allow time for the Officers to adjust to the new equipment.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned how long will the training take.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated the plan is to train in small groups and provide the mandated 16 hours of training and offer remedial if needed.

Legislator Sayegh questioned who does the training.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated the training will be done in-house. He stated that he is currently the lead Firearms Trainer. He stated there are another six (6) Trainers. He stated they are all working their way to finishing the training for this and to be able to teach it.

Legislator Ellner thanked the Sheriff and Lieutenant for bringing this forward. He requested clarification that the new Pistol Mounted Optics would result in faster target acquisition.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated that was correct.

Legislator Ellner stated then that will give the Officers more time to make a critical decision, which is why he will be supporting this request.

Legislator Gouldman stated it sounds as though the new equipment will result in improved accuracy, which is an advantage. He questioned how far a distance can it be used.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated in practice they have used it effectively at a maximum distance of 75 feet.

Legislator Jonke expressed his appreciation to the Sheriff and the Lieutenant for taking the initiative to bring this forward in an effort to make the Sheriff's Officer more effective and safer. He stated in the backup it states Federal Seized Asset Forfeiture funds will be used to purchase the equipment. He stated this will not have any adverse effect on the Taxpayers.

Legislator Montgomery questioned the cost of one (1) unit.

Lieutenant Anthony Taylor from the Putnam County Sheriff's Corrections Division stated it is \$794.80.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion about the product. She thanked Sheriff and Lieutenant again for bringing this forward.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment 24A124/ Sheriff's Office/ Federal Seized Asset Forfeiture Funds – Purchase Firearms Related Equipment; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A125/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ FY2024 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Funding/ Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton

Chairwoman Nacerino stated Putnam County has been awarded \$234,731 under the FY2024 Homeland Security Program Grant. She stated there is a list of items to be purchased there is a motor vehicle listed at the cost of \$95,575. She requested more information on that.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated they will be purchasing a Chevy Tahoe to replace the 2013 model that they have currently in the BES Department. He stated the older model will be given to the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this grant has no match.

Legislator Ellner questioned what is covered by the \$95,575.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated it includes the cost of the Vehicle and all of the outfitting necessary for the vehicle.

Legislator Ellner questioned if leasing the vehicle was considered, rather than purchasing it. He stated he inquiring because all of the discussion led by Commissioner of DGS Tully regarding leasing County Vehicles during the 2025 Budget process.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated that it was considered, but the grant funding was designated to purchase a vehicle.

Legislator Montgomery stated she sees all of the Grant funding the County's BES gets, while at the same time our Towns local Fire Departments and Law Enforcement are just scraping by. She questioned if this grant funding is ever allowed to be sub-granted to a municipality.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated no, that is not permitted. He explained this is a Federal pass through Grant. He stated the Federal Funds are given to the State who then award the funds accordingly. He stated as an example in the past he has been able to purchase equipment for the Mahopac Dive Team, which is the only dive team in Putnam County. He

stated they agreed to sign a Mutual Aid agreement with Putnam County that stated that they, the Mahopac Dive Team is the dive team for Putnam County.

Legislator Crowley stated this is the grant that the County used to fund the ERT (Emergency Response Team) with, and now goes to the SRT (Sheriff's Response Team).

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated that it is up to the Sheriff as to how he wants to use the portion of the grant funding that is designated to the Sheriff's Office.

Legislator Crowley requested confirmation that funding could be shared with an agency that the County has a mutual aid agreement with.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated there is a process that must be followed.

Legislator Montgomery stated her point is that she sees a lot of grant funding coming into the County's BES, and as a Legislator who represents local departments her hope is that there is a way found so the County and the BES can help the local departments.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated there are many grants available that the local departments can apply for. He stated he offers them reminders to apply and that they can contact the County for assistance in completing the application process.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment 24A125/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ FY2024 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Funding; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #8 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A126/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) Program Grant Funds/ Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton

Chairwoman Nacerino requested Commissioner of BES Lipton speak to this item.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated this is a grant that is specific to providing funding that if awarded must be used on technology items. He stated the County will be using the awarded funding on a program that is used called Rapid SOS. He stated the base program is free of charge, but the add on features need to be paid for. He stated that is what these LETECH grant funds will be used on. He stated the Rapid SOS program is very useful to the County Dispatchers.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment 24A126/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) Program Grant Funds; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #9 - FYI/ Fund Transfer 24T450/ Sheriff's Office Cover Overtime Overage/ Sheriff Kevin McConville – Duly Noted

Item #10– Other Business

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Waive the Rules and Accept the Other Business;
Seconded by Legislator Sayegh.

- a. Approval/ Fund Transfer 24T497/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ Funds for 911 Dispatch Center Overtime for Remainder of 2024/ Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this Overtime is due to the shortage of 911 Dispatchers.

Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated that is correct.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Fund Transfer 24T497/ Bureau of Emergency Services/ Funds for 911 Dispatch Center Overtime for Remainder of 2024; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

- b. FYI/ Fund Transfer 24T498/ Bureau of Emergency Services (BES)/ Transfer for BES Temp Line for Remainder of 2024/ Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton – Duly Noted**

Item #11 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 6:58pm Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn;
Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.