THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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William Gouldman	Dist. 2
Toni E. Addonizio	Dist. 3
Laura E. Russo	Dist. 4
Greg E. Ellner	Dist. 5
Paul E. Jonke	Dist. 6
Daniel G. Birmingham	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

AGENDA RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN ROOM #318 **PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairman Birmingham and Legislators Ellner & Gouldman

January 27, 2025 6:15pm Monday

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Approval/ Litigation Settlement/ Burris v. County of Putnam
- 4. Other Business
- 5. Adjournment

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2022, following a traffic stop of a vehicle in which Plaintiff Shane Burris was a passenger by certain Putnam County Sheriff's Department Investigators, illegal narcotics were recovered. from the person, property and/or vehicle of Plaintiff wherein Plaintiff was subsequently charged with narcotic-related offenses and transported to the Putnam County Correctional Facility for processing. During a physical search of his person at such facility, Plaintiff alleges he sustained physical injuries as well as psychological damage; and

WHEREAS, On November 18, 2022, Plaintiff commenced action against the County of Putnam and certain Putnam County Sheriff's Department Investigators alleging that his injuries were caused by defendants' excessive, improper and unconstitutional force; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiff sought recovery for compensatory damages in an undetermined amount as well as costs, disbursements, attorney's fees, and interest; and

WHEREAS, the County's insurer, the New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR), assigned the Portale Randazzo law firm, James A. Randazzo, Esq., to defend the County's interests in this matter which litigation has been handled by counsel since action was commenced in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Claims Committee for NYMIR recently arrived at a settlement value for this case of thirty thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiff agreed to a settlement with the County, subject to the Legislature's approval, in which the County agreed to pay Plaintiff the sum of thirty thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney, the County's outside counsel, James A. Randazzo, Esq., and NYMIR's claims representative have, following consultation with the named defendants, recommended the settlement as an alternative to trial; and

WHEREAS, counsel for the County of Putnam has in fact settled the matter with Plaintiff for the sum of thirty thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars, and Plaintiff has executed the required Release which, upon approval by the Legislature will be filed with the Court, thereby discontinuing this matter, and allowing Plaintiff to receive his settlement payment in the agreed upon amount; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned settlement is in the public interest and avoids the costs of further litigation, additional attorney's fees and costs and the risk of a high jury verdict; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the proposed settlement of this matter for the sum of thirty thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars is hereby approved.

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to sign any required settlement documents on behalf of the County including a Settlement Agreement and Release with respect thereto.