

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
OF THE  
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
HELD IN THE  
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE  
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Tuesday                      January 7, 2020                      7:00 P.M.

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by County Clerk Michael Bartolotti who requested Legislator Albano to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. County Clerk Bartolotti then requested Legislator Sayegh to lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Albano, Jonke, Castellano, Sayegh and Sullivan were present. Legislator Nacerino was absent. 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 Castellano made a motion to nominate Legislator Addonizio as Chairwoman; seconded by Legislators Albano and Sullivan.

Legislator Castellano stated that Legislator Addonizio is entering her sixth year as Putnam County Legislator representing the Town of Kent. She has been the Chair of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Economic Development & Energy Committee and the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee. He stated that she is currently a member of the One Army in the War on Addiction Task Force and she was instrumental in bringing Hope Not Handcuffs to the Sheriff's Department. She is a member of the Veterans' Service Medal Advisory Panel and has recently assisted with finding office space for the SPCA. He stated that he had no doubt that Legislator Addonizio would be up for the challenge in 2020 and she would make an outstanding Chairwoman for the Putnam County Legislature.

Legislator Sullivan stated that it was his honor to also second the motion to nominate Legislator Addonizio as Chair of the Legislature. He stated that Legislator Addonizio has served as Legislator for the people of Putnam County since 2015 and has served as Deputy Chair of the Legislature for the last two (2) years. He stated that she is a very hardworking Legislator with a professional demeanor. She has proven professional skills and incorporates fairness, compassion and has the utmost respect for everyone's perspective and opinions. She has always put the people of Putnam County first.

Legislator Albano stated that Legislator Addonizio has done a spectacular job and is very knowledgeable. He stated that he knows she will do a fantastic job going into the future.

Legislator Montgomery stated that there were prepared speeches and she questioned what the process was as to how this nomination came about. She stated that it was apparent that this decision came about before this meeting.

County Clerk Bartolotti stated that it was his understanding that Legislator Addonizio was interested in becoming the Chair, so he asked her who would be nominating her so that he could recognize them.

Legislator Montgomery explained that although this was perfectly legal, she believed the discussion should have taken place before the public.

Legislator Albano stated that it has been past practice that the Deputy Chair is usually considered for the Chair position, unless there was a reason that they wouldn't be.

Legislator Castellano explained that in past years Legislators seeking the Chair position would have conversations with all Legislators to discuss if they had support to move forward. He stated that in some years we have had two (2) Legislators step forward for the position.

Legislator Jonke explained that this is a decision by the Legislature and that is why discussions are taken place among the Legislators.

Legislator Montgomery explained that as a new Legislator, she did not know there was a poll taken prior to the meeting.

Legislator Sayegh stated that it is her understanding that anyone can make a nomination for another Legislator who would like to be Chair. There can be more than one (1) nominee.

Legislator Montgomery stated that she was not opposed to the nomination, she just wanted to clarify the process. She stated that she likes working with Legislator Addonizio and was looking forward to working with her.

County Clerk Bartolotti requested a roll call vote on the nomination.

#### **RESOLUTION #1**

#### **APPOINTMENT/ CHAIR/ PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**RESOLVED**, that Toni Addonizio 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, 2020.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

Chairwoman Addonizio thanked everyone for the confidence in her. She stated that she was honored and privileged to serve.

Item #5 – Appointment/Deputy Chair/Putnam County Legislature was next.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to nominate Legislator Sullivan to serve as Deputy Chair of the Legislature; seconded by Legislator Jonke.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that Legislator Sullivan was just re-elected and is entering his fourth year representing District #9. He has been the Chairman of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee for the past two (2) years and has also served as a member of the Audit & Administration Committee, the Economic Development & Energy Committee, the Personnel Committee and Protective Services Committee. Legislator Sullivan is always seeking to protect the taxpayers of Putnam County. He is a Carmel High School graduate and he has been running the family business for almost 20 years; which is located in Mahopac. He is a true public servant with a strong sense of community involvement with the Chamber of Commerce, the Knights of Columbus and Rotary. She stated that with his business background, leadership qualities, knowledge and experience she was proud to nominate him as Deputy Chair.

Legislator Jonke stated that Legislator Sullivan has done a fantastic job in his three (3) years on this Legislature. He stated that he has served with him on the Protective Services Committee for the last two (2) years. He believed that he would make a fantastic Deputy Chair.

Legislator Albano stated that Legislator Sullivan brings a wealth of knowledge and has proven himself in the last three (3) years. He believed he would be an excellent Deputy Chair.

Chairwoman Addonizio called for a Roll Call Vote on the nomination.

#### **RESOLUTION #2**

#### **APPOINTMENT/ DEPUTY CHAIR/ PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**RESOLVED**, that Neal L. Sullivan 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, 2020.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #6 – Re-Appointment/Legislative Clerk was called next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

#### **RESOLUTION #3**

#### **RE-APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE CLERK**

**RESOLVED**, that Diane Schonfeld be re-appointed to the position of Legislative Clerk, 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, 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 POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #7 – Adoption of Legislative Manual was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Sullivan.**

**Legislator Montgomery questioned what the change was to the manual last year.**

**Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated that Rule 30 on page 25 was added by resolution of the Legislature.**

**Legislator Montgomery explained that she had made requests throughout the year to address the Legislative Manual. However, those requests went unanswered.**

**Legislator Montgomery made a motion to table this until we can make changes to the manual or at least discuss possible changes. There was no second on the motion.**

**Chairwoman called for a Poll Vote on the motion to approve the manual.**

#### **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 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #8 – Adoption of Legislative Calendar was next. Chairwoman Addonizio stated that the March 3, 2020 meeting needed to be changed to Thursday, March 5, 2020.**

**Legislator Castellano made a motion to amend the resolution changing the March 3, 2020 to March 5, 2020; seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.**

**Chairwoman Addonizio moved the resolution as amended; seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.**

#### **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 2020:

Tuesday	January 7, 2020
Tuesday	February 4, 2020
Thursday	March 5, 2020
Tuesday	April 7, 2020
Tuesday	May 5, 2020
Tuesday	June 2, 2020
Tuesday	July 7, 2020
Tuesday	August 4, 2020
Tuesday	September 1, 2020
Tuesday	October 6, 2020
Wednesday	November 4, 2020
Tuesday	December 1, 2020

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

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

#### 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 2020.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

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

#### 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 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 2020.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

**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 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 2020.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

**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 2020 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 POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

**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, 2020.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

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

**RESOLUTION #11**

**APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ COOPERATIVE EXTENSION BOARD**

RESOLVED, that Toni Addonizio be appointed as the Legislative Representative to the Cooperative Extension Board for a period of one year, said term to expire on December 31, 2020.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #15 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Jury Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.

**RESOLUTION #12**

**APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ JURY BOARD**

RESOLVED, that Carl L. Albano be appointed Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Jury Board for a period of one year, said term to expire on December 31, 2020.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #16 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Region 3 Forest Practice Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Sayegh.**

**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 year, said term to expire on December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #17 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.**

**RESOLUTION #14**

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

**RESOLVED, that Amy Sayegh and Ginny Nacerino be appointed Legislative Representatives to the Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board for a one year term, said term to expire December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

**RESOLUTION #15**

**APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE/ RECORDS MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**RESOLVED, that Paul Jonke be appointed Legislative Representative to the Records Management Board for a one year period, said term to expire December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**



**Item #19 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Board of Health was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Jonke.**

**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 one year, said term to expire December 31, 2020; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Carl L. Albano will serve as an Alternate to the Putnam County Board of Health for a period of one year, said term to expire December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #20 – Appointment/Legislative Representative/Putnam County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislators Castellano and Sayegh.**

**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 year, said term to expire on December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #21 – Appointment/Putnam County Representative/Catskill Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Sayegh.**

**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, 2020; 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 POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

**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, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

**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, 2020; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Ginny Nacerino shall serve as an Alternate to the Law Library Board for a one (1) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #24 - Appointment/Legislative Liaison/Veterans Affairs was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.**

**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, 2020; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that Neal L. Sullivan shall serve as an Alternate as Legislative Liaison for Veterans Affairs for a period of one (1) year, said term to expire December 31, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #25 – Approval/Appointment/ Legislative Representative/ Putnam County Traffic Safety Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Jonke.**

**RESOLUTION #22**

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

**RESOLVED, that Neal L. Sullivan and William Gouldman 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, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #26 – Confirmation/ Designation of Jail Chief Medical Officer was next.**

**Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to accept the revised resolution; seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.**

**Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following as revised; seconded by Legislator Sayegh.**

**Legislator Montgomery stated that she understands that PrimeCare is the designated provider, however, she believed it appears to be in direct violation of the County Charter to appoint Dr. Nesheiwat, who is also the County's Health Commissioner. She explained that the Charter states that the Commissioner of Health cannot take on any private duties. If appointed he would be working for a private organization; PrimeCare who is a private entity providing medical services for the Corrections Department.**

**Legislator Montgomery made a motion to table this until we have a better understanding of it.**

**Legislative Counsel Firriolo believed that the issue was vetted by the County's Law Department last year when this came up and they found that it was not a violation. He stated that he would have to check to be sure it would not constitute private practice because Dr. Nesheiwat is acting as the Chief Medical Officer for the Jail; which is a public physician. He would be serving the public and he would not be engaging in a private practice choosing who your patients are. He would be required to see the inmates in the jail.**

**Chairwoman Addonizio stated that PrimeCare is a company that specializes in jails. They also provide 24/7 nursing, medical director and physician assistants. They are responsible for all pharmaceuticals dispersed at the jail. She did not believe there was a violation, but we would check.**

Legislator Montgomery questioned who signs the paycheck for Dr. Nesheiwat to provide services for the jail. She stated that she would like to take a step further and consult with the State Health Department.

Legislator Sullivan stated that he was concerned that there might not be a doctor available for the inmates if we were to table this.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that she had a conversation with the Sheriff and he was 100% on board with Dr. Nesheiwat.

Legislator Montgomery stated that this is not a personal issue. She stated that this is something she is not clear on and she believes we are in direct violation. She believed that it is unlikely that the jail wouldn't have a doctor and the inmates would be treated. She questioned where we stand legally if Dr. Nesheiwat is violating the County Charter or a State law by holding this office.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that if we find out there is an issue that we are in violation, she believed we could assess the situation at that point.

Legislator Albano stated that there is a motion on the floor that should be voted on. He stated that if there is an issue in the future we could make a change. He stated that at this time we feel it is correct.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned if there was a second on the motion to table. She stated that since there is no second on the motion to table she called for a vote to move the resolution.

#### **RESOLUTION #23**

##### **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 to act as the Chief Medical Officer of the Jail; and

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby designates 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, 2020.

**BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. ONE ABSTENTION – LEGISLATOR MONTGOMERY. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #27 – Appointment/Legislative Representatives/Putnam County Fire Advisory Board was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Jonke.

#### **RESOLUTION #24**

**APPOINTMENT/ LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES/ PUTNAM COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD**

**RESOLVED**, that Neal L. Sullivan be appointed as Legislative Representative to the Putnam County Fire Advisory Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2020; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Ginny Nacerino will serve as an Alternate to the Putnam County Fire Advisory Board, for a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2020.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #28 – Approval/Appointment/ Budget & Finance Committee Representative / Capital Projects Committee was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Castellano.**

**RESOLUTION #25**

**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, 2020.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #29 – Approval/ Appointment/ Additional Legislative Representative Member of Capital Projects Committee was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following; seconded by Legislator Sullivan.**

**Legislator Montgomery explained for the public that the Capital Projects Committee meets annually to discuss the projects that are before the County. She stated that the Legislature nominates a member and by default, being the minority member, she is also on the Committee per the County Charter.**

**RESOLUTION #26**

**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, 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #30 – Approval/Purchasing Department/Identifying Individuals Responsible for Purchasing was next. Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to move the following; seconded by Legislators Albano and Sullivan.**

**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 POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #31 – Approval/Authorization/Legislators to Attend January New York State Association of Counties Conference was next. Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following:**

**RESOLUTION #28**

**APPROVAL/ AUTHORIZATION/ LEGISLATORS TO ATTEND JANUARY NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS, six (6) Legislators have requested permission to attend the New York State Association of Counties Conference to be held in Albany, New York in January 2020 for registration and lodging total expenditure of approximately \$939 per person; and**

**WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved their requests; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature authorizes six (6) Legislators to attend the New York State Association of Counties Conference to be held in Albany, New York in January 2020.**

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #32 – Approval/ Fund Transfer (20T001)/ Planning Department/ Stipend Project Manager (Rail Link Feasibility – Southeast/Danbury) was next. Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to move the following:**

**Legislator Montgomery stated that she made some comments at the Legislature’s Year End Meeting where a stipend was approved. She stated that it is nothing personal about the individual receiving the stipend. She believed it was in the October meeting where we approved the Commissioner of Planning’s request for a Confidential Secretary. She stated that we are now moving funds from the Confidential Secretary position to cover a Project Manager stipend for an employee who is already working for the Planning Department. She stated that her issue was why we were paying a stipend to someone when their job is planning to begin with. She stated at the Year End Meeting she also had some concerns about the qualifications of this individual regarding their planning capability and their experience in planning. She stated that a fellow Legislator commented that this individual is a Planner. She stated that this individual is not a Planner. She stated that she did not even know if we have a Certified Planner on our staff. She stated that this was a great concern with all the projects that the County is working on. She questioned why we were handing out another \$15,000 and not just give them a raise. She explained that there were many employees that work on issues relevant to their department. She did not know why we were giving another \$15,000 just because it’s available in a grant and we took it away from a position that apparently was greatly needed two (2) months before.**

**Legislator Albano stated that this is work that is well over and above what the normal responsibilities are. He explained that it is a major project that is reimbursable. He believed that Putnam County needed someone at the table since it involves the County. He believed it made sense to compensate the individual for their extra time and the many meetings they would need to attend.**

**Legislator Sullivan stated that during the Committee meeting Commissioner of Planning Fusco was present. She believed it was a warranted position that would require a lot of time and she approved the stipend for the employee to perform this extra work. He stated that, based on her recommendation, he approved it.**

**Legislator Castellano stated that this might be the biggest mass transit project that we will have in Putnam County for quite some time. He stated that the dead rail line that goes from Danbury, Connecticut to Southeast, New York has not been used since 2007; the last time a train went through. He stated that they intend to repair that area and he believed that we needed a Putnam County person at the table. He stated that he is looking forward to this and he believed that it would be a great thing for Putnam County, as well as the Town of Southeast.**

Chairwoman Addonizio stated Vincent Tamagna was fully qualified to serve in this capacity.

Legislator Jonke stated that this is an exciting project between Putnam County and the City of Danbury. He stated that it runs from his district. He did not believe that it was ever represented that Mr. Tamagna was a Planner. He has a background in transportation, which is key to this project. It is about alleviating automobile and bus traffic coming from Danbury by allowing travel on the rail line. He believed that he was very qualified to do this. He believed that there will be a lot of additional work, which we are recognizing by giving him the stipend. He stated that he was in favor of this stipend.

Legislator Sayegh stated that the gentleman we are speaking of has a master's degree in Planning. Prior to county government he worked as a Planner. He has many years of experience. She explained that the Legislature does not hire the people in the various County departments. She stated that we take the recommendations made by the individuals in charge of the departments. She believed this individual has proved himself time and time again. She believed he was the perfect fit for this project.

Legislator Montgomery explained that her comments had nothing to do with the need for the study of this very important project and the importance of this project to the Town of Southeast. She stated that her concern was not having a certified Planner on the Putnam County staff. She stated that she has attended many MTA meetings and they never operate out of normal business hours. She did not know why we had to give an employee \$15,000 for work that will mostly likely happen during business hours.

Legislator Sullivan stated that this employee will also be working with the consulting firm and he was not sure if they would hold meetings with the community in the evening. He stated that based on Commissioner Fusco's comments, she indicated that there would be many hours spent on this project.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that Commissioner Fusco explained that there would be evening hours and traveling involved.

## **RESOLUTION #29**

### **APPROVAL/ FUND TRANSFER / PLANNING DEPARTMENT/ STIPEND PROJECT MANAGER (Rail Link Feasibility – Southeast/Danbury)**

**WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Planning has requested a fund transfer (20T001) to provide funding for a stipend for the Project Manager of the Southeast /Danbury Rail Link Feasibility / Planning Study; and**

**WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approve said fund transfer; now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:**

**Decrease:**

<b>10802000 51000 (10112)</b>	<b>Personnel – Confidential Secretary</b>	<b>15,000</b>
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**Increase:**

<b>10802000 51000 (10196)</b>	<b>Personnel – Stipend Project Manager</b>	<b>15,000</b>
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2020 Fiscal Impact – 0 –  
2021 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

**BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR MONTGOMERY. LEGISLATOR NACERINO WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #33 – Other Business**

There was no other business submitted for the meeting.

**Item #34 – Recognition of Public on Agenda Items**

Marsha Waldman from the Town of Mahopac referenced the issue raised about Legislative Committee meetings not being held on a regular basis which makes it difficult for members of the community to anticipate and participate in the meetings to express their concerns. She questioned when and if this issue will be addressed.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that it can be brought forth to the next Committee meeting to be discussed. She believed it would be discussed this year.

Kathleen Foley from Legislative District #1 referenced Item #7 – Adoption of Legislative Manual. She quoted Section III (B)(2)(a) which reads: “The Chair of each Committee, upon appointment and after consultation with his or her fellow Committee members, shall provide the Clerk of the Legislature with the day of each month on which that Committee shall meet. To the greatest extent possible, the Chair of each Committee shall schedule a Committee meeting in such a manner as to provide that said meetings take place on the same day of each month (i.e.: the second Tuesday of each month, the last Monday of each month, etc...). The Clerk of the Legislature shall then prepare and circulate to all members of the Legislature, the schedule of that year’s regularly scheduled Committee meetings. In the event the regularly scheduled meeting of a Committee falls on a holiday, the Chairman of such Committee shall schedule an alternate day for that month’s meeting.” She stated that she hoped that the Legislature would follow the manual that was approved. She also addressed Item #32 – Approval/ Fund Transfer (20T001)/ Planning Department/ Stipend Project Manager (Rail Link Feasibility – Southeast/Danbury). She believed his background in transportation comes to him by his appointment in the Planning Department. She was not aware of his planning degree and mentioned the degrees which were listed on his linkedin page. She also referenced Item #26 - Confirmation/ Designation of Jail Chief Medical Officer. She quoted the Putnam County Charter Section 10.04 (d) & (e) which read: “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.” “e) All full-time managerial employees in the department who are professionally licensed shall not engage in any private practice, nor be employed in their field of expertise with the County, by any private or governmental entity.” She believed this appointment should go back to the Law Department.

**Item #35 – Recognition of Legislators**

Legislator Castellano congratulated both Legislators Addonizio and Sullivan on their appointments as Chairwoman and Deputy Chair. He stated that he looked forward to working with them in the year ahead.

Chairwoman Addonizio thanked County Clerk Bartolotti for opening this evening's meeting. She also thanked Legislator Castellano for serving as Chairman of the Legislature for the past two (2) years. She thanked Legislators Castellano and Sullivan for nominating her for Chairwoman. She appreciated her colleague's confidence in her to serve as Chair of the Legislature. She stated that it is a responsibility that she takes very seriously, and she is humbled by the appointment. She stated that we will face many challenges in 2020 but working together collaboratively, we will find solutions as we have in the past. She stated that we will continue to advocate for the residents of Putnam County, as we deliver programs and services. She quoted Helen Keller, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". She congratulated re-elected Legislators Jonke, Sullivan and Albano. She stated that she is looking forward to a productive 2020.

Legislator Sullivan thanked Legislator Castellano for his last two (2) years of leadership and guidance serving as Chairman. He explained that it has been very valuable for him to learn how meetings are run by watching Legislator Castellano lead with a calm demeanor. He thanked Chairwoman Addonizio and Legislator Jonke for their support tonight. He looked forward to an exciting year ahead.

Legislator Albano congratulated Legislators Addonizio and Sullivan as Chairwoman and Deputy Chair. He thanked Legislator Castellano for doing such a fantastic job serving as Chairman.

Legislator Jonke congratulated Legislator Addonizio and Sullivan. He looked forward to working with them this year.

Legislator Gouldman hoped everyone enjoyed their holiday season. He thanked Legislator Castellano for his service the past two (2) years. He congratulated Legislators Addonizio and Sullivan. He stated that with an increase in anti-Semitism and violence occurring throughout the metropolitan New York area, the reformed temple of Putnam Valley will be sponsoring an event called, "Understanding and Dealing with Anti-Semitism. It will take place this Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 12 noon. He also reminded everyone about the Putnam County Internship Program for students called Putnam Invests in Leaders of Tomorrow (PILOT) Program. He stated that applications must be submitted online by January 31, 2020. He stated that more information can be found on the Putnam County website. He also encouraged residents to utilize licensed and registered tradesmen for all of their household repairs. He stated that you can contact the Putnam County Department of Consumer Affairs with any concerns or questions at 845-808-1617 for a complete list of licensed tradesmen.

Legislator Sayegh wished everyone a Happy New Year. She congratulated Legislators Addonizio and Sullivan for their service. She thanked Legislator Castellano for all that he has done over the last two (2) years serving as Chairman of the Legislature. She stated that in looking back over the past year, we lost a great man; Judge Reitz. She stated that this year the American Heart Association will be in memory of the Honorable Judge James F. Reitz. She reminded everyone that tomorrow, January 8, 2020, is the kick-off breakfast for the Putnam Heart Walk. It will be held at Putnam Hospital from 8:30 to 10:00 am.

**Legislator Montgomery wanted to clarify things brought up by the public with regards to the calendar and Legislative Manual. She explained that she wanted the public to understand that attempts have been made, and will continue to be made, to make meetings more transparent and easier for the public to attend. She believed that other items needed to be clarified in the Legislative Manual such as Section V entitled "Relationship between the Legislature and Executive Branch." She explained that it was clear that Legislators speak to employees and Department Heads, unfortunately when she speaks to them a memo is received from the County Executive saying that it is not allowed. She hoped in 2020 we would be addressing these items. She believed there needed to be a level playing ground. She understands that New York State law allows for private meetings involving the majority of a political body to discuss any matter, however many counties have passed laws to prohibit this. She hoped that this Legislature would consider possibly doing the same. She questioned if we wanted to operate the way the State does and how it is done on a National level where we are totally infected by partisan politics; being divided as a State and Country. She believed that we could do better for the people of our County. She congratulated Legislator Addonizio. She stated that she is excited for this next year and to continue the hard work of this Legislature.**

**There being no further business, at 8:04 P.M., Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.**