

**PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE TENTATIVE BUDGET
AS PRESENTED BY THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
HELD BY THE
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
HELD VIA AUDIO WEBINAR PURSUANT TO TEMPORARY EMERGENCY ORDERS**

Tuesday October 6, 2020
(Immediately following Budget Presentation beginning at 7:00 P.M.)

The meeting was called to order at 7:27 P.M. by Chairwoman Addonizio who lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Nacerino, Albano, Jonke, Castellano, Sayegh, Sullivan and Chairwoman Addonizio were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Firriolo.

Chairwoman Addonizio requested that the Clerk read the Public Notice (attached).

Chairwoman Addonizio read the procedures on how the Public Hearing would address comments from the public.

Chairwoman Addonizio requested confirmation for the following individuals who registered for the public hearing: Sheriff Robert L. Langley, Jr., and Kathleen Foley. Ms. Foley did not respond. Sheriff Langley was present on the phone to make a comment.

Sheriff Langley explained that we have seen civil unrest like never before in this country. It is greater than what we experienced during the 1960's civil rights movement. He stated that he has several concerns with the impact of the 2021 Tentative Budget regarding public safety and operations. He stated that the County Executive's office did not have the Sheriff's Department involved in any discussions. He stated that they went over the budget with the County Executive thirty minutes prior to the budget being submitted to the Legislature, therefore there was no opportunity to negotiate other areas of our budget where we could cut from. He stated that he was not included in the budget discussion, especially on staffing, marine patrol and the consolidation of dispatch services. He stated that he will discuss this at the Protective Services Budget meeting.

Chairwoman Addonizio asked again if Ms. Foley was on the phone.

Chairwoman Addonizio confirmed with the Clerk of the Legislature that no one else had called the Legislative office requesting to speak.

There being no further comments on the proposed budget; at 7:38 P.M., Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Albano.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if we keep this public hearing open through the budget process for people to submit questions.

Chairwoman Addonizio explained that the public hearing was for this meeting. She explained that we are moving on to the Full Legislative meeting next.

Legislator Montgomery believed that if the public had the opportunity to comment throughout the month, she assumed that the public hearing would be left opened.

By Roll Call Vote: Eight Ayes. One Nay – Legislator Montgomery. Motion to adjourn carried.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.