

**Physical Services Committee Meeting  
Held in Room #318  
Putnam County Office Building  
Members: Chairman Albano & Legislators Castellano and Wright**

Tuesday

May 19, 2015

**The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Chairman Albano who requested that Legislator Wright lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Albano and Legislators Castellano and Wright were present.**

**Item #3) Approval/ Physical Services Meeting Minutes/March 19 & April 13, 2015**

Chair Albano stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Chair Albano made a motion to Waive the Rules and Accept the Additional; Seconded by Legislator Wright. All in favor.

**Item #4) Approval/Proposed Resolution/Recommendation of Initial Offer Amount of Property to be Listed on MLS**

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated this was one of the initial properties that went into the Chapter 31 MLS process. He stated that there was an eviction process that had to be handled. He stated that the Briante Real Estate Broker who was assigned this property has provided a Comparative Market Analysis (CMA). He stated that the property is a tear down. He stated that it has been secured and boarded up by the County's Highway Department. He stated it is a very small parcel and will probably be marketed as a tear down.

Chair Albano questioned if he is aware that some parcels that are small and carry no real value are offered to the adjoining properties; is there ever a time that the County leaves these properties in a neutral zone.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the only time that would occur is when there is an environmental condition on the parcel. He stated that there are a few parcels that the County is dealing with currently. He stated there is a gas station property on the corner of Route 312 and 22 they are hoping the gentleman who bought it will be able to finalize a site plan and begin building on it soon. He stated the County Law Department is working with the Finance Department on a possible perspective cancellation of taxes to address a few environmental properties. He stated that he may have something ready to bring to this Committee next month.

Chair Albano made a motion to approve Proposed Resolution Recommendation of Initial Offer Amount of Property to be Listed on MLS; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #5) Approval/Proposed Resolution Approving Properties to be Offered to Contiguous Owners Pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Putnam County Code**

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that this resolution was created and presented by the Putnam County Finance Commissioner Carlin. He stated that they also worked with the Real Property Director Lisa Johnson. He stated the parcels on the proposed list have been identified as substandard and are non-buildable. He stated in most cases they are small wooded lots, only of value to the adjoining property owners. He stated that if the offer is accepted it is under the condition that the lot be merged with their current lot, resulting on tax map lot. He stated that would ensure, most likely, that the taxes would be paid in the future. He stated that the list presented has the properties that have been sold more than once identified with an asterisk (\*). He stated some of them have been sold through the Public Auction process in the past. He stated often after the buyer realizes the property is not buildable they stop paying the taxes and the process begins again.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if the adjoining property owner buys it, do they then have to re-survey their property.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the property owner certainly can hire a surveyor to do that, for their own records; however it is not necessary. He stated by Operational Law, the deed conveying title to the property owner will merge the tax map lots.

Legislator Nacerino questioned how successful is this process. She questioned if the property owner does not opt to purchase it, they may feel no harm no foul it is not going anywhere.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that the parcels do serve as a positive for the homeowner. He stated in some cases they may use the additional parcel in housing a pool or a shed. He stated that it increases their setbacks.

Legislator Castellano questioned what the process is that follows this approval.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the Finance Department will send a letter to the adjoining property owners offering the parcel. He stated a due date for a bid to be placed will be included. He stated that the highest bid will be received.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to approve Proposed Resolution Approving Properties to be Offered to Contiguous Owners Pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Putnam County Code; Seconded by Chair Albano. All in favor.

**Item #6) Approval/Land Acquisition/Mill Road Over Clove Creek Bridge Project/Town of Philipstown**

Commissioner Pena stated that this relates to Federal Funding (*FEMA= Federal Emergency Management Agency*) to replace a bridge that was demolition during Hurricane Irene (*August 2011*).

Legislator LoBue questioned if this is the “million dollar bridge”.

Commissioner Pena stated that it is. He stated that the County spent approximately a year trying to find an acceptable alternate project. He stated that the County looked at the option to purchase the property using the FEMA funding. He stated unfortunately then the property would come off of the tax roll and the County would not be allowed to resell it.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that the proposed resolution was prepared by Senior Deputy County Attorney Fusco. He stated that the resolution is requesting that the Legislature approve the acquisition in fee and the temporary easement over the Hustis Irrevocable Trust Property for the total amount of \$600, which will facilitate the construction of the Mill Road Over Clove Creek Bridge Project and the sum reimbursable with FEMA funds.

Chair Albano made a motion to approve the Land Acquisition/Mill Road Over Clove Creek Bridge Project/Town of Philipstown; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #7) Approval/Request for Additional Funding (nine items): (1) Facilities Subcontract \$25K (2) Generator Load Testing (3) Oil Water Separator Maintenance (4) Road Machinery Maintenance \$65K (5) Replace two (2) Mower Heads (6) Replace Utility Crane (7) Sand Blasting two (2) Dump Bodies (8) Road Fund Subcontract \$60K (9) Additional Crack Seal**

Commissioner Pena stated in reviewing the status of the Highway Department’s budget there were a couple of overruns identified. He stated they are requesting additional funding to cover the costs. He stated under the “Facilities Subcontract Line” \$25K is being requested for Generator Load Testing and Oil Water Separator Maintenance. He stated a couple of Generators have been installed throughout the County with Grant funding. He stated that the generators require regular maintenance, therefore part of the installation contract the Administration would like to add this service in order to do load testing on the generators, so that when the County needs to rely on them they are in working condition. He stated that his department staff have found some Oil Water Separators that have not been maintained. He is requesting that they also be put under contract and be cleaned regularly.

Commissioner Pena continued with the second budget line “Road Machinery Maintenance” he is requesting \$65K. He stated that there is equipment that needs to be replaced that were not included in the 2015 budget: two (2) Mower Heads. He stated that these Mower Heads are critical at this time as they are working on implementation of the Vegetation Management Plan. He stated also they need to replace the Utility Crane, which is used to replace drainage caps, and the Sand Blasting of two (2) of the Dump Bodies. He stated that at the ten (10) year mark of the department’s trucks a complete refurbishing of the truck needs to be done. He stated that it is very effective in getting approximately another ten (10) years out of a truck. He stated without

the refurbishing process the average usefulness of a truck in the highway department is more like 12 years.

Commissioner Pena continued on with the last budget line : “Road Fund Subcontract” he is requesting \$60K. He stated that the Highway Department has exhausted their \$100,000 Crack Seal funds. He stated based on the early inspections conducted after this winter, Crack Sealing is an effective, visually pleasing and low cost maintenance item in the effort of keeping the County’s roads in good condition.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the sand blasting of the Dump Bodies will be done by another company. She questioned if this is the first time that the County is trying this. She stated that she would like clarification on the total amount of dollars that is being requested.

Commissioner Pena stated that an outside company will be used to do the sand blasting of the Dump Bodies and yes this is the first time it will be done.

Legislator LoBue stated that the requested submission of this item that was sent to the Legislature is not clear. She stated that for the Audit meeting she would like a document that itemizes the requests.

Commissioner Pena stated that he will provide that.

Legislator Wright stated that he is not picking just on the Highway Department in his following statement. He stated that often the County is given items, such as the generators. He stated those items are not coming without a price. He stated they are said to be “free”, however there are always associated costs. He stated that this is an example of that.

Legislator LoBue requested that Commissioner Pena provided the total dollar amount of this request.

Commissioner Pena stated it is \$150,000. He stated that he has been in contact with Commissioner Carlin on this matter. He stated that the Commissioner will provide the necessary paper work to the May 21<sup>st</sup> Audit and Administration Committee Meeting.

Chair Albano made a motion to move the Request for Additional Funding for the Highways and Facilities Department (\$150,000) to the Audit & Administration Committee; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #8) Approval/Proposed Bond/2015 Road Funding: \$1.5M: (1) \$900K Road Surfaces (2) \$500K Bridges & Culverts (3) \$100K Equipment**

Commissioner Pena stated this is a very lean budget compared to past years. He stated that historically the County has done between \$1.5million - \$2million on road surfaces alone. He stated that they are trying to combine the road maintenance plan with the bridges and culverts work. He stated that there are four (4) culverts in Putnam County that are in collapse mode: West Lake Boulevard, Turk Hill, Church and Peekskill Hollow Road. He stated that the design will begin and an evaluation to determine if the culvert needs a full replacement or if a repair can be done to extend the life. He stated that they plan to continue to replace, purchase and maintain the County equipment. He stated that the three (3) categories are the ones that have been discussed as being categories that the County wants to bring up to a regular basis of applying funds to. He stated that it is a fairly aggressive plan to work within \$900K for Road Surfacing, when traditionally the County has spent a lot more.

Legislator LoBue stated that she would like the Commissioner to provide a list of roads that will be resurfaced.

Commissioner Pena stated that currently the list of roads are still being compiled and prioritized. He stated that through the Cornell Local Roads Program, they have also applied some Asset Management Philosophy to them.

Legislator LoBue reiterated that she would like the list of roads. She stated also she would like the list of Bridges and Culverts. She stated that she will request an explanation from Commissioner Carlin at the Audit and Administration meeting as to why the County is requesting to Bond \$100, 000 for equipment. She stated that she would like Commissioner Pena to provide a list of the equipment as well.

Commissioner Pena concurred to provide the requested documentation.

Chair Albano stated that he commends the County in their effort to stay within such a tight budget for the roads, especially in light of the tough winter we had. He stated that the roads are heaving throughout the County .

**a) Memo Fr: Commissioner Pena To: Legislator Gouldman Dated: April 22,2015 Re: Peekskill Hollow Rd/Deterioration of Roadway/Response to Memo dated 4/13/15**

Former Legislator Sam Oliverio questioned (in ref. to item #8a) if the grouping of bridges and culverts includes the Peekskill Hollow Road bridge.

Commissioner Pena stated it does not. He stated that Bridge is included in the Peekskill Hollow Road Project, which they are targeting as beginning in 2016.

Former Legislator Sam Oliverio stated that he is aware that Legislator Gouldman contacted Commissioner Pena in regards to the deterioration of areas along the Peekskill Hollow roadway. He stated that he would like to thank Commissioner Pena for addressing many of the pot holes along the Peekskill Hollow roadway, the work that has been done by the County's Highway Department has been a tremendous help. He requested confirmation that the Peekskill Hollow Road project does include the renovation of that bridge.

Commissioner Pena stated that is correct. He stated the bridge and the intersection at the High School will be included. He stated that they are doing box-outs along Peekskill Hollow Road to address subsurface issues. He stated the box-outs are done first, then depending on funding and severity on the rest of the roads the County will go back and overlay on top.

Legislator Gouldman stated that he is thankful to Commissioner Pena and his staff for the great job they currently did on Peekskill Hollow Road. He stated that the overlay will make it much better. He stated that we had a horrible winter, and the entire County's roadways were impacted. He stated the work that the County's Highways & Facilities Department is doing is great.

Commissioner Pena stated that they are looking at products that are more pliable and liquid for patching pot holes. He stated the gravel does not kick up onto the bottom of vehicles as they drive over a patched hole. He stated that the County did buy a couple of tons of it to try it out and have used it in some areas to test it.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to approve the Proposed Bond/2015 Road Funding: \$1.5M: (1) \$900K Road Surfaces (2) \$500K Bridges & Culverts (3) \$100K Equipment; Seconded by Chair Albano. All in favor.

Legislator LoBue stated included on the additional documentation for Item #8 the SEQRA Determination for the proposed \$100,000 bond includes an estimated cost of \$40,000 for a Brine Making System. She questioned the inclusion of the Brine listing on the backup for the \$100K Equipment bond. She stated that the Town of Carmel has their own Brine Making Machine. She stated that the County has an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with the Town of Carmel. She questioned why the County would not share in the use, via the IMA, of the Brine Making Machine already owned by the Town of Carmel.

Commissioner Pena stated that the County is moving into using the Brine more, as a de-icing technique. He stated he will have to double check on this matter. He stated that as far as he was aware the County was not planning on purchasing Brine Equipment.

Legislator LoBue stated this is a lot of money that is looking to be bonded. She stated if the Legislature can remove \$40,000 from this request, she would like that to happen.

Commissioner Pena stated that he will meet with the Town of Carmel's Highway Superintendent, because the County would not want to deplete Carmel's supply of Brine.

Legislator Wright questioned if Brine has a shelf life.

Commissioner Pena stated no, it stays in a solution.

Legislator Wright stated he would believe that there would be a way then to stockpile a supply, if the IMA is utilized.

Chair Albano stated that at \$40,000 if it is something that Commissioner Pena reports that the County needs, he would support it.

Commissioner Pena stated he will verify this matter.

Legislator Wright stated that it sounds to him as though if there were an approved storage tank and there is no shelf life concern, this would be a great project for a Summer Intern.

Chair Albano stated that his concern is that the County would need a good storage facility.

Legislator LoBue stated that there would be an off-set. Commissioner Pena stated with the increased use of Brine there will be a reduction in the use of Salt on the roads.

Legislator Addonizio requested an estimate of cost saving that will be resulted in the use of Brine versus Salt.

Commissioner Pena stated that he will estimate that. He continued to explain the process and potential obstacles in sharing the Brine machine with the Town of Carmel.

Legislator Nacerino stated that the Brine is more environmentally friendly. She stated the Salt run-off is a concern, especially to those who have a well.

Commissioner Pena stated that is a delicate balance they are constantly looking to accomplish; safe roads, while saving the environment. He stated that the belief is the investment of dollars is worth accomplishing that.

Chair Albano stated that he would like to approve this. He stated that Commissioner Pena can look into the \$40,000 Brine Machinery inclusion and determine if the County needs to move forward with its inclusion in the \$100,000 Bond request.

Chair Albano made a motion to approval/Proposed Bond/2015 Road Funding: \$1.5M: (1) \$900K Road Surfaces (2) \$500K Bridges & Culverts (3) \$100K Equipment; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #9) Approval/Budgetary Amendment (15A036)/Bond/2015 Road Funding: \$1.5M**

Chair Albano made a motion to approve/Budgetary Amendment (15A036)/Bond/ 2015 Road Funding: \$1.5M; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #10) Update/Tilly Foster: (1) Resolution for WQIP Funding (2) Discuss Need for Additional Funding For: \*Water Supply \*Power Supply \*Lodge and General**

Commissioner Pena stated the County inherited the Tilly Foster Farm (Farm) project approximately a year and a half ago. He stated the directive he was given was to make the Farm useable. He stated the original funding for the project was \$300,000 to go towards the Lodge and the Visitors Center. He stated as the work began on the Lodge there was a tremendous amount of deterioration, much more than was expected. He stated at several stages the question was raised as to whether the Lodge should be torn down. However, it was decided that the Lodge is an icon of the Tilly Foster Farm, therefore they forged forward with the renovation. He stated that they have learned that every major function at the Farm is in question, water supply, sewer-septic, and power supply. He stated that each system is in severe deterioration. He continued to elaborate on the deterioration. He continued with pictures and explanation of the proposed plans. He stated that they are working with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to receive funding from the Water Quality Investment Program (WQIP) to cover the costs of new Septic at the Farm. He stated that there were other areas that the County was hoping the WQIP funds would cover, that are not being approved. He stated the original request for WQIP funds included the Septic Replacement, Water Supply and Dam Repair. He stated that Dam Repair is still being considered based on collecting all of the surface runoff from the Farm and keeping it from traveling down to Route 312. He stated that the Department of Transportation is very interested in that. He stated that Septic System would also require a pumping station. He stated that would require a high power supply demand. He stated that led them to inadequate power supply. He stated that two 3 horse power pumps have been identified to meet the needs. He stated the original design study provided by a consultant to the County has been revised. He stated that they have consulted with the County's Department of Health and the County's Plumber. He stated that there will be three (3) wells that will supply water to a central location which will distribute water to the rest of the facility. He stated that the Department of Health required that a Water Purification be used. He stated that they are working on that, the parts for that system will cost \$25,000. He stated it is a requirement for a public facility. He stated that the Power Supply System will be finalized with NYSEG soon. He stated that part of the need for the Power Supply System is due to the Septic Pumping System. He stated they are negotiating to get part of the Power Supply System to be covered with WQIP funds, due to the fact that a portion of the Power Supply System will be supplying the power to the Septic Pumping System. He stated they will be putting the Power Wires underground. He stated this has been discussed with this Committee in the past. He stated that it is a hardening technique for the facility as well as aesthetically the right thing to do. He stated that individual



meters will be installed, which is something that the Legislature has discussed in the past. He stated those are the major components at the Farm: Sewer, Water and Power Supply. He stated that ratio of the portion of expense that will be covered by WQIP funds has not been determined as of yet for the Power Supply. He stated that the Water Supply component was not approved by the DEP to be covered by the WQIP Funds. He stated the estimated cost of the Water Supply component is \$125,000, which will need to be covered by the County.

Legislator LoBue questioned who paid for the Consultant referenced to that created the original Water Supply plan.

Commissioner Pena stated the consultant and the submitted plans occurred prior to his joining the County, he has no information pertaining to that.

Legislator LoBue stated then for clarification the County is not currently working with a Consultant.

Commissioner Pena stated that is correct.

Legislator LoBue she stated that she sent a correspondence to the County Executive regarding the plan for the Farm which supposedly involves BOCES. She stated that she sent her correspondence on March 20, 2015 and to date, she has not received a response, not even confirmation that it has been received and they are working on it. She stated that the County Executive stated at the State of the County presentation on March 12, 2015 that there is a contract with BOCES. She stated to her she does not see investing, what at this point looks close to \$1 million, on a project that there are no firm plans for. She stated that she went to the Farm this past Saturday. She stated that there were seven (7) – nine (9) men working at the Farm. She questioned if the County is accounting for all of the labor.

Chair Albano stated that he is aware that people in the Alternative To Incarceration (ATI) program have been working at the Farm. He stated that the Water supply was an issue before. He stated that he saw an estimate of \$300,000 to address it.

Legislator LoBue stated years back, County Executive Bondi wanted to use money from the Septic Repair Program to pay for the Water and Septic issues at the Farm.

Chair Albano stated but it was not done.

Legislator LoBue stated that is not under discussion tonight. She stated that the County is moving forward knowing that the Water and Septic need to be addressed and the money is mounting. She is concerned because the County does not know the end use of the Farm. She stated if the Administration has some type of agreement with BOCES, the Legislature needs to know about it. She stated that the Legislature is responsible for the money. She stated she cannot agree to keep investing money, nor does she think anyone else should be comfortable in continuing to invest money without knowing what the arrangement is with BOCES. She stated we are investing in a project without knowing the actual end use. She continued to express her opinion regarding the fact that she cannot support continued funding for the Farm without a plan.

Chair Albano stated in his opinion there is a County facility in need of repair. He stated that the location is off of Interstate 84, the location alone offers itself to tremendous potential. He stated that the building (Lodge) currently at the Farm was in a dangerous state, as Commissioner Pena has displayed in photos and has verbally updated the Legislature. He stated the exterior looked good, however once the walls were opened the reality of the inferior structure, electrical work etc. required the County to take action in bringing it to code.

Legislator LoBue stated that she does not agree with that. She stated that the Farm previously was used in a certain manner that had 20 – 30 people at an event; it was a Country Farm. She stated now the entire use of the Farm is changing. She stated for the statement to be made that the work had to be done, she does not agree with.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated regardless of what organization or company occupies the space at the Farm, it must be brought up to code.

Legislator Nacerino stated the County's mission was to maximize its asset. She stated the asset, as it was, was sub-standard. She stated the County could not have utilized the Farm in the way that the County wants to utilize it without making these infrastructural improvements. She stated that her decisions will not be based contingent on whether BOCES will be coming to the Farm or not. She stated if it is not BOCES it will be some other organization that will. She stated she believes the Farm will be the jewel of Putnam County. She stated that the County is fortunate to have the approval of receiving WQIP funds to cover a large share of what needs to be done. She stated that the mission was never to target towards BOCES as the end result. She stated the goal is not for this Farm to be 30 people's Farm, but the people of Putnam County's Farm.

Legislator Wright stated that the Farm does have a certain type of character in that if you build it they will come. He stated it is not much different than the 30-40 people who are advocating to build the multibillion dollar Butterfield Project. He stated that it is being based on the anticipation of the influx. He stated with that being said, he does not believe that anything that Legislator LoBue has said is out of order.

Legislator Nacerino stated the work being done are basic functional things that need to be done regardless of the use.

Chair Albano stated that with an asset that is useable a projection of long term potential needs to be done. He stated that anyone in real estate looks at the Farm property and its proximately to Interstate 84, and says there is tremendous potential there.

Commissioner Pena continued with his power point presentation that showed photos of the Farm project. Particularly, there were photos of rotted out beams, tree trunks etc. He stated that he committed to the team working on the Farm that he would invite the Legislators to the Farm, and see for yourselves the project and issues that exist which needs to be addressed. He stated that he has been working to keep the Legislature updated on the discoveries being made at the Farm throughout the process. He stated the columns are being replaced, the wooden beams and floor joist. He stated structurally the Lodge was not safe. He stated that he could not sign off on it the way it was. He stated that he believes anyone who knows construction would agree with him. He stated that the work is taking a lot of man power, however, it is County Employees and they

use ATI members when possible and they work Saturdays, in an effort to get as much work completed as possible. He stated until all of the structural issues are addressed, the Farm cannot be opened up to an event or public. He continued with the power point presentation displaying electrical issues. He stated that the Electrician was not comfortable with what was in the walls; he stated that he would not certify it as it was. He stated that he was in agreement with him. He stated that they are installing code compliant connections, code compliant bracers and all the other electrical wiring that is required to meet basic safety building codes. He continued with the presentation.

Legislator LoBue questioned how much of the \$300,000 is left.

Commissioner Pena stated that they have spent \$150,000 to date. He continued with the presentation.

Chair Albano questioned where does Commissioner Pena see this project going.

Commissioner Pena stated that all the internals have been investigated. He stated that they need to introduce plumbing, electric, HVAC and fire protection in the building. He stated that there is an energy code compliance issue that must be addressed. He stated that there was no insulation at all in the building. He stated that research options are being done and a proposed package will be brought forward when they are complete. He stated that the purpose of sharing this information tonight is to continue in the Administration's effort to keep the Legislature informed on the progress with the Farm project. He reiterated that he would be available to meet any Legislator (s) at the Farm and provide them with a tour of the facility; allowing them the opportunity to see what has been shown via photos tonight. He stated the long-term plans for the Farm, which were discussed with members of the community during the meetings of the Tilly Foster Farm Task Force in 2014, included bringing the animals back, making the Farm functional, making it safe and making it useable. He stated the County is working on all of those points.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the labor is being charged back.

Commissioner Pena stated that he is keeping track of the labor being used at the facility.

**Item #15) Correspondence: D: 04-28-15 Fr: Commissioner Pena Re: Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9257/Parking Lot /FYI**

Commissioner Pena stated the results of the evaluation, performed by members of his department, of the Parking Lot at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9257 was that the lot was in good to very good condition. He stated that if the desire would be to overlay the lot at an inch and a half, that would cost approximately \$35,000.

Legislator Nacerino thanked Commissioner Pena for going out to this site, which is in her Legislative District. She stated that she did reach out to Senator Murphy to see if there are any funds available to help cover the cost of what would be recommended for this site. She stated, as previously discussed, this parking lot is used by several different agencies.

Commissioner Pena stated possibly a sealer would be appropriate. He stated that he will personally go and look at the site.

**Item #13) Correspondence: D: 04-28-15 Fr: Director of OFSR Sheehy Re: Carmel Senior Center/FYI**

Legislator LoBue stated that in 2014 Commissioner Pena came to this Committee with plans and proposing the County Bond \$750,000 to cover the cost of renovations to be made to the Carmel Senior Center, located at the Donald B. Smith campus.

Commissioner Pena stated that is correct. He stated that he and his staff were requested to analyze the current space and make recommendations on how the space could be improved. He stated immediately it was recognized that additional square footage was required to accommodate the exercise space. He stated that they recommended relocating some of the Administrative Staff to a section in building two (2) that is not occupied at this time. He stated that the drawings provided were done in-house.

Legislator LoBue stated that she and Legislator Scuccimarra spoke against the project last year. She stated that in the correspondence, that is back up to this agenda item from Director Sheehy, she sees that the County Executive has sent funding proposals to Senators Murphy and Serino. She stated that if this is in reference to the County applying for Grant funding it should have come to the Legislature for approval prior to the submission.

Chair Albano stated that the County Executive may be exploring whether there would be funding available prior to committing to a project.

Legislator LoBue stated in our Charter (the Appropriations Section) it states that the Legislature is to be notified of the interest and intent to apply for a Grant.

Chair Albano stated that he would only be concerned if it was a Grant application that involved a County match.

Legislator LoBue stated that is not how it is documented in the Charter. She stated if that is a procedure that the Legislature would like to amend, it can be addressed in the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

Legislator Wright stated that he agrees it would be beneficial to have the Legislature notified of proposed projects and approve them in concept, before a search for funding is begun. He stated that he would like to remind everyone that any funding the County receives from the State, is each of ours dollars, just from a different pocket. He stated if the Legislature would like to change the Charter, then change the Charter. He stated that he does not agree with continuing to have written documents that are intended to guide the actions of not only the Legislature, but all County Government and not adhere to them.

Chair Albano stated that he is not sure that a formal Grant application was put in. He stated that the question will be asked of the Administration. He stated at this point there is no approval being requested, this is a project that has been brought to the Legislature's attention and expressed that there is a need.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she agrees with Chair Albano, and would like a written request be sent to the County Executive for clarification on what steps have been taken. She stated that she agrees that it does not appear to her that a Grant application was submitted. She stated that she does not think that the County Executive, knowing the Charter herself, would move forward with a Grant application without notifying the Legislature. She agrees that the Charter needs to be followed. She stated she would like to give the benefit of the doubt to the County Executive, and request that she supply clarity on the action she has taken in regards to this matter.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that she agrees that the way the memo is written she does not believe a formal Grant application was made. She stated that Senator Serino heads up and advocates in New York State for the Seniors.

Legislator Wright stated he believes that a Legislator who is requested of would like to know that the request is structurally sound and desired by the municipality who is requesting it. He stated that he would believe that the Albany representatives receive many requests for funding. He stated so when the State Officials are giving consideration to a project, he believes that it is valuable to them to know that the project is going to move forward if approve. He stated that it would be embarrassing if Senator Serino were to approach one of us, after receiving the request from the County Executive and we would have to say we do not know what she is referring to; that would be embarrassing to the County that the Legislature is not knowledgeable of it.

**Item #11) Approval/ Appointments/Putnam County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board**

- a) **Jacqui Gueft Fill “Farmer Vacancy”**
- b) **Brian Bergen Fill “Farmer Vacancy”**

Chair Albano stated that an additional item to #11 is consideration to approve the reappointment of Marjorie Thorpe to the Putnam County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to approve the Appointments/Reappointments: J. Gueft, B. Bergen & M. Thorpe; Seconded by Chair Albano. All in favor.

**Item #12) Correspondence: D: 04-25-15 Fr: S. Unger, Putnam County Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities Re: Transportation Concerns From Council Members/FYI**

Chair Albano stated the correspondence from Mr. Unger states that ridership has dropped off. He stated part of the reason for the drop off was contributed to the bad weather in the Winter and a few other reasons.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that she is the Legislative Representative to the Council for People with Disabilities (Council). She stated that one (1) of their main concerns is that there are some people who need the service that are not receiving it. She stated that she would recommend having Transportation Manager Tamagna attend a meeting to provide the actual numbers. She stated that she will address this with the Council members at the next meeting.

Legislator Wright suggested that the Members of the Coordinating Council directly contact Transportation Manager Tamagna with their concerns and recommendations so that when the matter comes back to the Legislature there is a recommendation being made and not merely a discussion.

**Item #14) Correspondence: D: 04-15-15 Fr: Chairman Albano To: Hon. Schumer, et al. Re: Opposition to Proposal to Install Toll Booths on Our Interstate Borders/FYI**

Chair Albano stated that this matter was discussed in this committee last month. He stated per last month's committee discussion the referenced correspondence has been sent to our Federal representatives documenting this Legislature's opposition to the proposal to install Toll Booths on our Interstate Boarders.

**Item #16) Correspondence E-mail: D: 04-20-15 Fr: Commissioner Carlin Re: COP (County Of Putnam Properties) Sales Report for Legislature April 2015/FYI**

Chair Albano stated that Commissioner Carlin sent an amended COP Sales Report that was accepted, as part of the additional correspondence at the beginning of the meeting. This report was sent in response to a request from the Legislature.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the column listed as "Deed Amount" is the amount in arrears; is that what is owed in taxes.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that is correct.

Legislator LoBue stated that the property sold on Seminary Hill Road, the County took a loss on the sale. She questioned if there was an issue with this property.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated yes there were many different factors that came into play in regards to the sale of that property. He continued to review the report that was provided by Commissioner Carlin.

**Item #17) Other Business- None**

**Item #18) Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:20P.M., Chair Albano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Trabulsy, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature.