

**SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
CALLED BY THE CLERK AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIR
TO BE HELD AT
PUTNAM GOLF, INC.
187 HILL STREET
MAHOPAC, NEW YORK 10541**

Thursday March 9, 2017 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Chairwoman Nacerino. The Putnam County Sheriff's Department and Civil Air Patrol presented the flag. Chairwoman Nacerino requested the Putnam County Sheriff to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairwoman Nacerino led in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Scuccimarra, Gouldman, Addonizio, Albano, Jonke, Castellano, LoBue, Sullivan and Chairwoman Nacerino.

Chairwoman Nacerino introduced Deputy County Executive Walker.

Deputy County Executive Walker introduced all the elected officials in attendance, party chairs, Department heads and a number of representatives from outside organizations. He also extended a special welcome to the Convery Family, the O'Neill Family and the Antoci Family. Deputy County Executive Walker then introduced the County Executive, MaryEllen Odell.

County Executive Odell began the 2017 State of the County Address with a moment of silence in honor of those we recently lost: Senior Investigator Mark R. Gilmore, Retired NYPD Detective Sgt. James O'Neill, US Marine Corps Sergeant Joseph J. Morrissey, WWII Army Veteran and former POW Mario Antoci, Patterson Town Justice John E. King and Undersheriff Peter Convery.

County Executive Odell explained the narrative she developed which was based on what she believed people wanted to see for the future. She detailed the 2014 State of the County Address which focused on the Year of the Senior. She explained that the 2015 State of the County Address focused on the Year of the Family and in 2016 it focused on the Year of Business Development.

County Executive Odell stated that 2017 will focus on the Year of the Millennial. She stated that the Millennials are our future and it was important to keep them in Putnam County. She believed it was important to supply this generation with the tools and support they need to keep moving forward; which includes a community infrastructure that will last. The future development of app-based technology will be influenced by the millennial generation. She explained that the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) "Drivers for Change – Plan 2045" is making decisions on transportation infrastructure and how it will look by 2045. County Executive Odell explained that Millennials are projected to spend trillions of dollars in their lifetime and she stated that she wanted them to spend it here in Putnam County. She stated that we need Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) projects. She explained that they offer Leisure/Travel, Mobility and Technology; having retail development on the lower level and residential

development on the upper levels. It offers millennials the opportunity to live in the County.

County Executive Odell also explained how Uber and Lyft could be very helpful to our economy and how Airbnb could transform our County from a “day-cation” to a “stay-cation” destination. She welcomed the new Director of Tourism, Bruce Conklin. She mentioned destination areas in Putnam County such as: Putnam County Golf Course and the Tilly Foster Farm Educational Institute “Tilly’s Table.” She spoke about Mobility and affordable transportation. She stated that Putnam County is ready to discuss how government can utilize Uber and Lyft without impacting the private sector. She explained that the Putnam County Transportation Taskforce would discuss all modes of transportation.

County Executive Odell continued and explained the need to stay ahead of the latest technology. Live streaming and podcasts are ways the public stays in touch with their community or current events. She explained how Libraries are a host for technology and information. County Executive Odell acknowledged the County’s career and volunteer First Responders; our Fire and EMS providers. She detailed the number of 911 calls for Fire, EMS and Police for 2016. She explained that when providing the latest technology, the County needs to focus on interoperability which must be supported through infrastructure to meet the needs of the millennial generation as well as our first responders. She acknowledged our nation’s first responders; our veterans. She explained the PFC Joseph Dwyer Vet2Vet Program offered in Putnam County.

County Executive Odell continued and explained how Putnam County is continuing to fight the war on addiction. She stated that there are Medication Drop Boxes to dispose of unneeded medications. She explained that Putnam County also works collaboratively with Elected Officials and many different providers throughout the County such as; Drug Crisis in our Backyard, the National Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Dependencies (NCADD), Communities that Care Coalition, Stop-DWI, Arms Acres, Putnam County District Attorney, Putnam County Sheriff, Putnam Family and Community Services and St. Christopher’s Inn. She explained how the drug crisis is nationwide and the international criminal organizations have claimed space in every county across the Country.

County Executive Odell continued and explained how the County is preparing for the next generation. She explained and elaborated on the success of the County’s Intern Program; the PILOT Program (Putnam Invests in Leaders Of Tomorrow). She also explained the success of the “Teens~N~Kids” Mentoring Program and the County’s partnership with Camp Herrlich.

County Executive Odell explained that Putnam County has continued to maintain a strong bond rating five (5) years in a row with a Moody’s credit rating of Aa2. She continued and provided a breakdown of percentages of the three (3) major expenses from the 2016 Budget of \$143 million: Economic Assistance 24%, Government Administration and Compliance 20% and Public Safety 24%. She provided the following percentages of revenue generated from the 2016 Budget: Sales Tax 40%, Real Property Taxes 32%, Federal & State Revenue 18% and Department Revenue 10%. She explained how the Administration has, for the 5th year in a row, delivered a budget that stayed within the NYS Property Tax Cap Law. She explained the fiscal impact to Putnam County due to the future closing of Indian Point.

County Executive Odell continued and provided an overview of the sales tax revenue growth since 2012. She explained how the Administration intends to maintain the uptick trending in sales tax revenue such as: to harness the spending power of the Millennials and the request to NYS for the 1% sales tax extension for another two (2) years. She explained that Putnam County is the 2nd lowest county in expenditures per capita in New York State. She explained that Putnam County's portion of a County homeowner's tax bill is only 9.1%. She explained how the County would remain committed to pursuing grants through private, local, State and Federal levels.

County Executive Odell continued by recognizing each and every Legislator. She also recognized all of the Chambers of Commerce and the value of their partnership with Putnam County.

County Executive Odell closed by stating that 2017 is the "Year of the Millennial." She stated that the State of Putnam County is fiscally strong. She stated that we have a bold vision for the future and we have a highly professional a qualified team. She stated that we will continue to provide an enjoyable quality of life that is essential to the "live, work and play" mantra that we live by here in Putnam County.

There being no further business, at 8:31 P.M., Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislators Addonizio and Jonke. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.