

Main Street. He stated the last month of cell tower income was accounted for in December related to the radio project. He stated the County also received multimodal aid for the bikeway as well, which was accounted for. He stated the estimated amount that was transferred into the transit facility rehabilitation from the CARES Act was adjusted to reflect the actual cost. He stated the pre-kindergarten buses were purchased and are being adjusted to the actual cost as well.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

c. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 22A009/ Soil & Water Conservation District Board Project (Also reviewed in Physical)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

d. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 22A010/ Planning/ Renovations of Putnam County Veterans Home (Also reviewed in Physical)

Legislator Albano stated he believes the bathrooms are being renovated with this funding.

Legislator Nacerino stated she visited the Veterans Home last week and this work is necessary.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

e. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 22A011/ Dept. of Social Services/ Safe Harbor Allocation (Also reviewed in Health)

Legislator Nacerino stated this is such an important source of funding that goes toward Green Chimneys.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

f. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 22A012/ Sheriff's Dept./ Reimbursable Costs for Providing Resources to Joint Operations (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

g. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 22A013/ Veterans Affairs/ Additional Funding for Veterans Peer to Peer Support Program

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval/ Fund Transfer 22T008/ Dept. of Social Services/ Overtime for Probation Officers through 9/30/2022 for Curfew Checks (Also reviewed in Health)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval/ Fund Transfer 22T019/ Office for Senior Resources/ Field Home Grant/ Senior Transportation

Director of the Office for Senior Resources (OSR) Michael Cunningham stated OSR originally applied for this grant prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic and it was received in 2020. He stated the original intent was to use the \$15,000 to provide in-home respite for caregivers. He stated when COVID hit, it became very difficult to recruit additional home health aids and families were hesitant to have strangers come into their home. He stated the grant had a period of a year and the Field Home Foundation was willing to work with the needs of the OSR, one of which was transportation for homebound seniors who live further away from public transportation. He stated OSR currently offers transportation to medical appointments and they utilize senior volunteers to do so. He stated they are looking to address the need of other types of transportation for purposes such as shopping, going to a non-medical appointment, or visiting a family member. He stated the idea is to utilize the \$15,000 grant to purchase vouchers for taxi or other transportation companies. He stated seniors would be screened for their eligibility when they apply for the voucher.

Legislator Nacerino stated this is an important service that will contribute to the seniors' quality of life. She questioned how the seniors would be notified of this program.

Director Cunningham stated the case management staff are always in touch with the seniors. He stated there is an identified need for this and he does not anticipate notification or awareness of the program being an issue. He stated if needed, they can create a publication on it as well.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 22T019 pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #8 – Approval/ Probation/ Corrective Action Plan for New York State Comptroller’s Audit

Acting Probation Director John Osterhout stated the New York State Comptroller’s Office did an audit of the Probation Department’s books for restitution collection and found some areas of improvement. He stated improvements include policy actions, making sure there are set times when the Probation Department will make referrals to the court when a person has not complied with their restitution order. He stated the biggest recommendation they made was for the Probation Department to disperse the undispersed restitution funds. He stated there was \$2,751 transferred into an undispersed account about 10 years ago and it has not been provided to victims as it should have been. He stated they are currently in the process of locating the defendants who paid that money so they can identify the victims. He stated their corrective action plan is to show the NYS Comptroller’s Office that they will draft a new policy and to get the undispersed funds paid out as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Carlin stated he believes if the victim cannot be found, the funds can go to New York State unclaimed funds.

Acting Director Osterhout stated the funds will not be forwarded to New York State; the Probation Department has to disperse it to the victim directly. He stated the victims were unreachable at the time the restitution payments were originally made therefore the checks came back and the Probation Department is still holding that money.

Chairman Castellano questioned if restitution judgements are done.

Acting Director Osterhout stated yes, when a probation order is made there is a judgement as well and it is filed with the County Clerk’s office. He stated typically, when a person is sentenced to probation with restitution conditions they collect the payment and distribute it to the victim(s). He stated during the audit period, the Probation Department dispersed \$140,000 worth of restitution. He stated while it is not a large amount, the \$2,751 needs to be paid to the victims and it is his goal to get it done by the end of the year.

Legislator Sullivan requested further clarification on the restitution payments.

Acting Director Osterhout stated restitution is money that a victim has lost because of the crime. He stated if property was stolen, the value of the property is ordered by the court. He stated the Probation Department is the designated restitution collection agency for the County so they will disperse restitution for cases not only that are sentenced to probation, but people who are sentenced to State prison as well. He stated in the cases where the person is sentenced to State prison, the Probation Department receives payments from the inmate’s commissary account.

Commissioner Carlin clarified that when money is received from the State prison, it is in small allocations and not all in one check.

Legislator Nacerino stated to clarify, \$2,751 is the only amount that has been stagnant in the account; the rest has been paid out.

Acting Director Osterhout stated yes, the restitution money is paid out the same month it comes in. He stated they collect the restitution payments, process them through the bank, and cut checks once a month. He stated there are instances where victims move and do not provide their new address, and the Probation Department then has to try to locate them. He stated usually they are able to do so, however the victims who are owed these payments from 10 years ago were not found at the time. He stated in order to send the Probation Department's corrective action plan to the NYS Comptroller's Office the Legislature must first approve it.

Commissioner Carlin stated it will be filed in the County Clerk's Office as well.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #9 – Approval/ Authorization/ Legislators to Attend March NYSAC Conference

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #10 – FYI/ County's Deposit & Investment Policies/ Fourth Quarter Ending 12/31/2021 – Duly Noted

Item #11 – Potential Settlement/ Section 75 Employee Disciplinary Matter

Chairman Castellano made a motion to table Potential Settlement/ Section 75 Employee Disciplinary Matter; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #12 – Other Business – None

Item #13 – Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:54p.m. Chairman Castellano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant, Beth Robinson.