

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING- RM#318
40 GLENEIDA AVEUNE
CARMEL, NY 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Nacerino & Legislators Sayegh, Sullivan

Thursday

November 17, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairwoman Nacerino who requested Legislator Sullivan lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Sayegh, Sullivan and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

Item #3 - Approval/ Protective Services Meeting Minutes/ September 21, & October 17, 2022

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 – Update/ Community Engagement Police Advisory Board (CEPAB)/ CEPAB Chairman Scott Rhodes & Co-Chairman Ronald Reid

Chairwoman Nacerino welcomed CEPAB Chairman Scott Rhodes and Jeff Tepper, who is a member of the CEPAB. He stated he wanted to start by thanking County Executive Odell and Deputy County Executive Feighery for their time and dedication in helping with the formation of CEPAB. He stated from day one when the Executive Order came down from, at that time Governor Cuomo. He continued to thank the members of the Legislature for their support and Sheriff McConville. He stated he and other members of the CEPAB had a meeting with Sheriff McConville. He stated they were given a Body Camera demonstration. He stated they included in the initiative that the Putnam Sheriff's Department begin using Body Cameras. He stated he is very happy Sheriff McConville executed that. He stated additionally they are also going to use dashboard cameras, providing continuity between the data. He stated the discussions with the Sheriff's Department have included the matter of community engagement. He spoke to the "Essential Drive", which is a program the CEPAB is working on, and it is in its infant stage. He stated as they move forward Sheriff McConville has agreed to continue to meet with the CEPAB on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. He stated they have other initiatives that were in the final report that came from the Executive Order. He stated Sheriff McConville has agreed to work with CEPAB as they move forward with the proposed initiatives. He stated the Cultural Festival, which Co-Chair of CEPAB Ronald Reid is in charge of, will be held at a new location in 2023. He stated they will be hosting it at the Putnam County Veterans Park. He stated the Tilly Foster Farm event was very successful, but there was a doubling booking situation, which in some ways was a positive. He stated the Putnam County Veterans Park location is a great setting for the plans that they have for the 2023 event. He stated CEPAB will be sending a letter to Chairwoman Nacerino stating they want to continue CEPAB. He stated that was a requirement cited in the resolution that was passed (R#104/2021) by the Legislature in June of 2021.

Chairwoman Nacerino expressed her appreciation for the update and for the fine work of the CEPAB.

Item#5 - Approval/ Fund Transfer – 22T298/ Transfer Funds for Furniture for Three (3) Assistant District Attorney Offices/ District Attorney Robert Tendy

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Fund Transfer – 22T298/ Transfer Funds for Furniture for Three (3) Assistant District Attorney Offices; Seconded by Legislators Sayegh and Sullivan. All in favor.

Item#6 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 22A073/ Amend the Sheriff's 2022 Overtime Budget to included Anticipated Revenue for Services Rendered to the Putnam County School Districts and Board of Elections

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment 22A073/ Amend the Sheriff's 2022 Overtime Budget to included Anticipated Revenue for Services Rendered to the Putnam County School Districts and Board of Elections; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item#7 - Approval/ Budgetary Transfer- 22T247/ Fund One Half of Morgue Improvements/ Coordinator of Coroners Michael Nesheiwat

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Waive the Rules and Accept the Additional; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that Coordinator of Coroners Nesheiwat, MD had a conflict and was not able to attend. She stated Commissioner of Finance Bill Carlin is present and will address this item. She stated she did speak to Dr. Nesheiwat regarding this request. She explained he indicated that he has had several meetings with the President of Putnam Hospital and the Putnam Hospital Leadership Team and they came to this proposed agreement. She stated they would like to split the costs of the improvements to the Morgue 50/50.

Commissioner of Finance Bill Carlin stated during COVID the need for a highly functioning Morgue was evident. He stated rather than building one, which the County had looked into building years ago, this was proposed. He explained the County's portion of the funds would go to the cabinets and similar parts of the renovations. He stated the Hospital will be paying to turn the Morgue into a negative pressure room, which would isolate contagious diseases. He stated that he believes this is a good step in keeping a good partnership with the County Hospital.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that Dr. Nesheiwat did inform her that Putnam Hospital will carry the full responsibility of the negative pressure room. She stated that she agrees this is a good partnership between the County and the Hospital.

Legislator Sullivan stated he looked at the back up that was provided, you can clearly see there is a need to update the Morgue. He stated as Commissioner Carlin stated it would be cost prohibitive for the County to build their own Morgue. He stated he will support this request.

Legislator Sayegh questioned what is the size of the room.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated he did not have that information with him. He explained the renovation will be done within the existing footprint.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the County pays rent to Putnam Hospital.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated the County does not pay rent but pays per autopsy. He stated he did not have the figures with him.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Transfer-22T247/ Fund One Half of Morgue Improvements; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item#8 – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment – 22A076/ Putnam County Sheriff’s Office – NY Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee Grant Award/ Sheriff Kevin McConville

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this is the NY Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee grant to support the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department participation in the NYS Police Services Program designed to increase belt usage and reduce dangerous driving behaviors.

Sheriff McConville stated that is correct.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment – 22A076/ Putnam County Sheriff’s Office – NY Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee Grant Award; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item#9 - FYI/ Fund Transfer – 22T302/ AEDs For County Buildings/ Commissioner BES Kenneth Clair – Duly Noted

Item#10 – FYI/ Fund Transfer – 22T268/ Equipment Needed for Tech Rescue/ Bureau Emergency Services Kenneth Clair– Duly Noted

Item#11 – Update/ EMS Director Alex Roehner’s Plans for the County’s Medical Services Department/ Commissioner BES Kenneth Clair

Chairwoman Nacerino introduced the recently hired Putnam County EMS Director Alex Roehner.

EMS Director Alex Roehner stated she has been working for Putnam County as the EMS Director for just about four (4) months. She stated her previous job was in the very busy EMS System in Yonkers as a Lieutenant Paramedic. She stated the frustration in that job was the lack of resources, which made it challenging to help the community. She stated in Putnam County there is an abundance of resources which she will work to get to all of the agencies together so excellent patient care can be provided. She stated she is working with the members of Putnam Hospital and many different agencies throughout the county. She provided a broad overview of some of the projects she is working on. She stated that she has been receiving a great deal of support from everyone who she is interacting with.

Chairwoman Nacerino expressed her appreciation for Director Roehner and the work she is doing. She stated she was happy to provide an opportunity to introduce her.

Legislator Sullivan welcomed Director Roehner and expressed his approval of having a person coming from a big city, like Yonkers, and bringing years of experience and knowledge to Putnam County.

Legislator Montgomery stated her appreciation for Director Roehner's work and communications on the western side of the County.

Director Roehner stated she believes the western side has been functioning autonomously. She stated there is a wealth of knowledge there and she is happy to work with them.

Item #12 – Discussion/ Rescue Taskforce/ Sheriff Kevin McConville

Chairwoman Nacerino introduced the following people who were present to speak to this item: Sheriff McConville, Putnam Lake Fire Department (PLFD) Chief Mike Cairney, who brought this initiative forward, and PLFD Deputy Chief/President Dave Raines and the PLFD former Chief Vinny Fanelli. She stated she is aware that the hope is to form a Rescue Taskforce that will be incorporated with the County's Emergency Response Team (ERT).

Sheriff McConville stated Chief Carney and other interested members of the Rescue Taskforce (RTF) contacted him back in February of 2022 about the functionality of the RTF. He stated they presented the goals and the services they believed the RTF could provide. He stated the concept of the Emergency Response Team (ERT) came from the west coast. He stated it has swept the nation and has come east. He stated at the February meeting they provided him with documentation on their policy and procedures. He stated they have re-written the ERT policies, practices, and tactics manual. He stated it had not been updated since 2006. He explained that the RTF members have already been training with the ERT members. He stated the integration of these two (2) critical teams was very simple. He stated they did formalize it through the rewriting and revision and updating of the ERT policies and practices.

Chief Cairney provided an overview of what the RTF is. He explained it is a team that has members from the Fire Departments, EMS Teams and the Police Departments. He stated they would respond to an Active Shooter case, active threat etc. He stated the RTF members are trained and specialized in going into "warm" situations where EMS/Fire members are not permitted. He stated the RTF members wear specialized equipment and they are trained with the ERT. He stated his concept is that there will be three (3) teams throughout the County, east, middle, and west sides. He stated that would provide full coverage for the County. He stated it is a manpower dependent team. He stated currently the only members of the RTF are members from his Putnam Lake Department. He stated he does have members interested in the Cold Spring and Mahopac Falls areas. He stated that they do a lot of training. He spoke to the different training and the benefits.

Chairwoman Nacerino thanked Chief Cairney for his vision and implementation of the RTF. She extended her appreciation to all of the people who are working together to make this happen.

Legislator Sullivan stated he believes it is great to hear that the RTF will respond to situations and will provide additional assistance and backup.

Chief Cairney stated it will take the burden off the Police Departments. He stated the RTF will be there to care for the victims. He stated in the past the members of the Police Departments had to be responsible with addressing the threat and then caring for the victims.

Legislator Sayegh questioned what is meant by a “warm” situation.

Chief Cairney explained that when the threat appears to be terminated, the RTF members will go to the victims with Police support.

Sheriff McConville stated the primary role of the Police at scenes is to terminate the threat. He stated for the members of the Police Department the care of the victims is secondary. He stated the primary role of the RTF will be to care for the victims.

Legislator Sayegh questioned who will fund the cost of the equipment for the RTF.

Sheriff McConville stated there are federal and state grant opportunities as well as other sources of funding as well.

Retired Chief Vinny Fanelli stated he is in full support of what the Sheriff and the Chief have presented. He stated he is previous law enforcement as well as fire. He continued to speak to his support and emphasized the need for the RTF to grow throughout the County. He stated they look to the Legislature for their support as they move through this evolution.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that she fully supports this. She stated as it has been explained this is so critical.

Sheriff McConville stated Chief Cairney deserves the credit for pushing this RTF initiative forward.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if a person needs to be a member of a fire department to be a member of the RTF.

Chief Cairney stated as of now, yes. He stated the home Department carries the insurance. He stated the RTF will be made up of highly qualified individuals, just like the members of the ERT.

Chairwoman Nacerino expressed her appreciation for information that was shared and for the fine work that is being done to improve the level of services by the County’s first responders.

Item#13 - Other Business

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to waive the rules and accept the other business; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

- a. FYI/ Fund Transfer - 22T325/ To Cover Increase in Food Prices Through Year End/ Correctional Facility/ Sheriff Kevin McConville – Duly Noted**
- b. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment – 22A083/ T-Commission Reserve Fund to Purchase a Server for Black Creek Jail Management System/ Sheriff Kevin McConville**

Sheriff McConville stated this request to use T-Commission Funds is to purchase a new server for the Jail Management System. He stated that IT/GIS Director Tom Lannon met with them in the beginning of the year. He stated Director Lannon recognized as they were adding on the existing Server would end up costing the County more money. He stated Director Lannon worked with the Sheriff's Department in selecting this server. He stated this is used in 47 other Counties and will allow them to connect with the other counties, inputting and exporting inmate information.

Legislator Sullivan questioned what kind of information is provided.

Sheriff McConville stated it will provide arrest history if there is any. He stated behavioral history and patterns if the inmate has been in other prisons. He stated and it will allow the Sheriff's Department to input pertinent information. He stated it is a matter of protection.

Legislator Sullivan stated it is shocking to him that the Sheriff's Department did not already have that.

Sheriff McConville stated the County's Investigative Personnel and Patrol Personnel will be able to access this information from their computers. He stated that will provide them with valuable information. He stated also the dispatchers will have availability to the information, which will assist in providing the appropriate response to a situation.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment – 22A083/ T-Commission Reserve Fund to Purchase a Server for Black Creek Jail Management System; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #14 - Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:18PM Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.