

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF THE  
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
HELD AT THE  
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE  
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Thursday

October 5, 2023

7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Chairman Jonke who requested that Putnam County Sheriff Kevin McConville lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Legislator Nacerino to lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Ellner, Castellano, Sayegh, Crowley and Chairman Jonke were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Firriolo.

Item #4 – Committee to Meet with the County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance to Discuss the Proposed 2024 Budget.

Chairman Jonke stated that on Monday, October 2, 2023, the County Executive transmitted the 2024 Tentative Budget to the Legislature. Pursuant to the Putnam County Charter, the County Executive and the Commissioner of Finance are required to meet with the Budget and Finance Committee within five days after the transmittal of the Tentative Budget, to review that document with the Committee.

Chairman Jonke recognized the Director of Personnel and Former County Executive Paul Eldridge who then recognized the Elected Officials in attendance for the presentation.

Chairman Jonke introduced County Executive Kevin M. Byrne to present the Proposed 2024 Budget.

County Executive Byrne thanked Chairman Jonke and presented the (attached) 2024 Executive Budget as required by Section 7 of the Putnam County Charter.

Chairman Jonke thanked County Executive Byrne for his presentation of the 2024 Tentative Budget. He stated that the Legislature looks forward to reviewing the proposed budget during our Legislative Budget Committee meetings which are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, October 10, 2023. He stated that the meetings will be held in Room #318 of the County Office Building. Please check the calendar on the Legislative webpage for the dates of the Budget meetings scheduled for this month. He stated that a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget, as presented by the County Executive this evening, will be held by the Budget & Finance Committee of the Putnam County Legislature immediately following the closing of this meeting.

Chairman Jonke asked if any members of the Legislature would like to comment.

Legislator Montgomery thanked County Executive Byrne for his presentation. She stated that she noticed in the proposed budget was the increase in the salaries for his executive staff. He stated that it is the second increase in less than one (1) year. She stated that there are also double digit increases in the Sheriff's executive staff in a short period of time as well. She stated that she wanted to point out that there are disparities in the salaries between the women and men in the County Executive's staff. She explained that

aside from the salaries, the many changes in the general budget were great. She stated that she was interested in how these will work, and that she was especially interested in the position for developmental disabilities. She stated Congressman Lawlor earmarked funding for sidewalks which she hoped that the County would receive. She believed it would go a long way in her district where they have a lot of tourists. She hoped that money would be shared, along with the millions of dollars in our fund balance and the surplus of sales tax revenue.

There being no further business, at 8:05 P.M., Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.