

**b. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 15A017/ Vacancy Control Factor
January & February**

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

**c. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 15A018/ Health Dept./ Personnel due
to Vacancy in Nursing Division (Also Reviewed in Health)**

Legislator LoBue stated there is an issue with the fiscal impact.

Commissioner of Finance William Carlin stated one sheet said 2016 rather than 2015. He stated there is a savings because the person who will be filling the vacancy will receive a lower salary than the person who left.

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

**d. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 15A019/ Account for Sales Tax
Proceeds and Inventory Costs at Putnam County Golf Course**

Legislator LoBue questioned if this is the sales tax that the County owes.

Commissioner Carlin stated the Putnam County Golf Course does not account for the cost of goods sold and sales tax in their budget as they are not "income items." He stated the Golf Course collects the sales tax and sends it to New York State. He stated in Munis, sales tax is treated as an inflow of money and an outflow of money. He stated if the budget for the Putnam County Golf Course is not increased, it is essentially like the budget is being cut. He stated next year this will be taken care of through the budget process.

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

**e. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 15A021/ Sheriff's Department/
Outside Services**

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 15A021; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

**f. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 15A022/ Probation/ DWI Crackdown/
Allow for Pass Through of Funds Received from NYS Stop-DWI
Foundation**

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

Item #6 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 15T021/ Sheriff's Dept./ Additional Funds for needed Captain Position (Also reviewed in Personnel)

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

Item #7 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 15T022/ Sheriff's Dept./ Cover Overtime due to Correction Officer Vacancies

Undersheriff Peter Convery stated the Sheriff's Department is in the process of hiring Correction Officers. He stated in 2014 they instituted an agility test which has been very successful. He stated they are trying to hire the best of the best by following the civil service process. He stated he is hopeful that within the next month the positions in the jail will be filled.

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

Item #8 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 15T025/ Sheriff's Dept./ Purchase 6 Tactical Vests

Legislator LoBue questioned what the \$6,500 for range supplies on the transfer is for.

County Auditor Michele Sharkey stated the \$6,500 is coming out of the Range/ERT line.

Legislator LoBue questioned what the \$6,500 is for.

Undersheriff Convery stated the tactical unit, the Putnam County Emergency Response Team, has been in existence for over 10 years. He stated it is time to replenish the vests. He stated the Sheriff's Department is requesting to transfer the \$6,500 out of the Range/ERT line to put towards the purchase of new vests so everyone is brought up to certification. He stated this is all homeland security money.

Legislator Nacerino clarified that the money is all for one (1) purpose.

Undersheriff Convery stated that is correct. He stated the three (3) lines shown on the Fund Transfer is where the money is coming out of. He stated the Sheriff's Department is purchasing 21 vests in total. He stated they had funding for 15 vests and the Fund Transfer is to cover the cost of the last six (6) vests.

Legislator Nacerino made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 15T025; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Item #9 - Approval/ Local Law Amendment/ Chapter 41, Section 41-5 & Section 41-10A(2) of the Code of Putnam County Entitled “Deposit & Investment Policy”

Legislator Albano questioned how it is decided how much money goes to each bank.

Commissioner Carlin stated it depends on the size of the bank. He stated there is a formula for deciding the assets of the bank.

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

Item #10 - Approval/ Local Law to Amend Chapter 5 of the Putnam County Code Entitled “Appropriations” by Adding a New Subsection F to Section 5-1

Chairman Castellano stated he is concerned about any issues that may arise with forbidding transfers from utility lines. He stated he does agree with not using the funds allocated in these lines for other things; however he would like to discuss possible complications.

Legislator Nacerino stated the budget lines are too liquid and money is transferred back and forth too easily. She stated she would like to have something tangible within the Code, making it more enforceable. She stated she believes these lines should not be transferrable. She stated the proposed amendment states “These lines are not transferrable without approval of the Legislature.” She stated this leaves some “wiggle room.”

Chairman Castellano questioned if the price of gasoline were to drop and funds needed to be transferred out of that line, if it would go before the Full Legislature for approval.

Legislative Counsel Clem Van Ross stated that is correct.

Commissioner Carlin stated currently, all transfers must go before the Full Legislature. He stated the ability to transfer between utility lines was discussed. He stated he is hesitant of changing the code. He also stated so far this year, no transfers have been submitted requesting transferring funds from any utility lines.

Legislator LoBue stated she believes it was decided that the utility lines would be interchangeable. She stated the Legislature has the ultimate control. She stated she would like a running total from a department requesting a transfer. She stated this may avoid issues while budgeting.

Legislator Nacerino stated although the policy is in place and the Legislature has the final say on all transfers, she would like to see this enacted. She stated often when a transfer comes in, it is a time sensitive issue and the Legislature rarely says “no.” She stated with this included in the Code, it is an absolute no. She stated therefore, the proposal of using

utility money will be avoided. She stated this would also keep the budget more open and transparent. She stated the budget is posted, however the monies are being utilized for other things.

Director of Consumer Affairs Jean Noel stated it was discussed that over-budgeted money would be taken out of departments' gasoline lines. She questioned if Commissioner Carlin has begun doing this yet.

Commissioner Carlin stated no money has been taken out because the price of gasoline has increased. He stated at the beginning of the year the price was \$1.50 and it is now up to \$1.83.

Chairman Castellano questioned what would happen if there is an emergency and more money is needed for gasoline.

Commissioner Carlin stated a transfer would be submitted to the Committee to transfer some money into the gasoline line. He stated if the transfer could not go through the process in time, an emergency purpose would be called. He stated the cost of electric is increasing as well.

Legislator Nacerino stated she is in support of making the utility lines transferrable with each other.

Chairman Castellano stated the proposed Local Law could be amended to state that the utility lines may be transferrable with one another. He questioned what the procedure would be when transferring funds between the utility lines.

Commissioner Carlin stated the same transfer process that is currently in place would be followed.

Chairman Castellano stated electricity should be added to the list of utilities on the proposed Local Law.

Legislator Albano stated he would like to pay more attention to each fund transfer as they come before the Legislature.

Commissioner Carlin stated the object codes should be added to the proposed Local Law as well.

Legislator Albano suggested removing "...without approval of the Legislature." He stated with this taken out, there would be no way to move funds out of the utility lines.

Commissioner Carlin stated transfers within the utility codes, in one (1) department, would be subject to the procedure that is currently followed.

Legislator Nacerino stated Legislative Counsel Van Ross could add the object codes in as well.

Chairman Castellano stated he is in agreement that transfers should be able to take place between utility lines.

Legislator Nacerino stated this came about because money allocated for utilities was being used for other things. She stated she would like to reign in the spending.

Chairman Castellano stated he does not want to make it complicated.

Commissioner Carlin stated rather than transfers requesting funds from other lines, they will be requesting money from contingency.

Legislator Nacerino stated each fund transfer should demonstrate the need for what the money is being used for. She stated money is allocated for utilities, and that is the only thing the money should be used for.

Legislator Albano again stated "...approval of the Legislature." should be removed to give it a more serious feel. He stated when the fund transfers are before the Legislature, the Legislators should pay attention to what is being transferred and for what reason.

Chairman Castellano questioned if this could be rewritten prior to the Full Legislative Meeting on April 8, 2015.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated it would have to be rewritten tonight in order to abide by the eight (8) day rule for a Local Law.

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

Item #12 - Approval/ Support of Putnam County's Limited Exemption of Sales and Use Tax on Purchases of Qualified Clothing and Footwear/ August 21-30, 2015

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

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated a letter should be sent to the State Representatives requesting the status of the County's sales tax increase.

Item #13 - Correspondence/ Dutchess County Executive Molinaro

a. Approval/ Memorialization/ Requesting Home Rule Legislation in the New York State Legislature to Repeal the MTA Payroll Tax

Legislator Albano stated he would like to memorialize this resolution. He stated he does not think payroll should be taxed.

Chairman Castellano questioned which Counties pay 3/8% sales tax.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is a different tax than is being outlined in the resolution. He stated this is the payroll tax that everyone within the five (5) member district pays. He stated this includes Orange, Dutchess, Westchester, Putnam, Rockland as well as Nassau and Suffolk Counties. He stated there is a .34% tax on payroll.

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

b. Approval/ Memorialization/ Requesting Home Rule Legislation in the New York State Legislature to Repeal the MTA Supplemental Vehicle Registration Fee and Other Associated Fees

Chairman Castellano questioned what the fee is.

Commissioner Carlin stated he is unaware of the fee, however the County Clerk would be able to provide the numbers.

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

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated a revised number for Putnam County must be obtained from County Clerk Michael Bartolotti.

Item #14 - Approval/ Litigation Settlement

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

Item #15 - Discussion/ 2014 Variance Report

Legislator LoBue stated the variance report is a useful tool to refer to during the budget process.

Legislator Nacerino stated the Legislators will be able to better assess the budget going into the budget process.

Item #16 - Discussion/ OTB Pilot Payments/ Resolution #288 of 2011

Commissioner Carlin stated the Southeast OTB does not pay taxes as they are exempt. He stated this does not apply to the OTB in Carmel because it is privately owned. He stated in regards to the OTB in Southeast, it was decided by the County that a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) would be paid to the Town of Southeast, the County of Putnam, and the Brewster Central School District.

Legislator Albano questioned if the payment is based on a percentage.

Commissioner Carlin stated it was based on a percentage when it was first implemented. He stated in 2011, a modification was proposed to bring the payment down. He stated at the time, the income level was falling for OTB, but the assessments were going up. He stated at that point, it was decided to place a cap on the payment. He stated the cap was set at the last cost for that year (Resolution #288 of 2011). He stated the Brewster Central School District receives \$38,429.86, the Town of Southeast receives \$3,505.24, and Putnam County receives \$4,081.32. He stated when this resolution was passed in 2011, this accounted for about 15% of the revenue. He stated the percentage remained the same in 2012. He stated it was not anticipated that the revenue would decrease. He stated the PILOT payments amounted to 30% of the revenue in 2013. He stated in 2014, the payments were 37% of the revenue. He stated if the current trend continues the County will be paying more money than is being made.

Legislator LoBue questioned why the numbers Commissioner Carlin was providing were higher than what she was seeing on her sheet.

Commissioner Carlin stated the report that the Legislators are seeing takes into account the PILOT payments, making the numbers on the report lower than the actual.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated on the report it shows that in 2006, the revenue was \$840,000. He stated in 2011, the revenue was \$219,000. He stated in 2014, the revenue was \$70,000. He stated the State Legislature has devoted money to other things.

Legislator Albano questioned how much is paid to the County.

Commissioner Carlin stated the \$4,081.32 comes to the County.

Chairman Castellano questioned if the County ever used an assessed value for the property.

Commissioner Carlin stated it originally started out with an assessed value.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross suggested a 3% payment to the Town of Southeast and a 10% payment to Brewster Central School District based on the last 12 months. He stated this would reduce the figure to a conservative amount.

Chairman Castellano questioned how Legislative Counsel Van Ross arrived at those numbers.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated it is an approximation to what was being paid under the original agreement.

Chairman Castellano stated it may be too late to lower the amount to the School District.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated it could be made effective January 1, 2016.

Eric Gross, reporter for the Putnam County Courier, stated the school budgets are for the year beginning July 1st and ending June 30th.

Chairman Castellano stated this would have to be made effective beginning in 2017.

Commissioner Carlin stated the check is given to the schools on September 1st. He stated while the County budget will be for the year 2016, the School District's budget will be for the 2017-2018 school year.

Chairman Castellano clarified that in 2011 a fixed value was set.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct, it has been the same since the County's fiscal year 2011.

Chairman Castellano questioned what the amount was prior to 2011.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated it was based on the assessed value.

Chairman Castellano clarified that the amount was frozen in 2011.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct and the revenue has been decreasing drastically since then.

Chairman Castellano questioned if it should be brought back to the assessed value.

Commissioner Carlin stated the assessor may go too high due to the renovations that have taken place. He stated there is no reason for the assessor to not raise the assessment because it is a non-taxable item.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated the Town of Southeast and the Brewster Central School District are not entitled to anything since the OTB is off the tax rolls.

Legislator Albano stated setting a percentage is a good way to handle the payments.

Chairman Castellano questioned how the assessed value works.

Commissioner Carlin stated without the resolution, the Town of Southeast and the Brewster Central School District would get nothing.

Chairman Castellano stated the County is basically subsidizing the OTB to keep it open.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct. He stated the Legislature in 2011 did not predict the plummet in revenue.

Chairman Castellano questioned what the percentages should be.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross suggested a 3% payment to the Town of Southeast and a 10% payment to Brewster Central School District based on the last 12 months.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if this would be made effective January 1, 2017.

Commissioner Carlin stated it would be put into the 2016 budget.

Chairman Castellano stated the percentage could be evaluated each year based on the revenue.

Commissioner Carlin stated it can be done as part of the budget process.

Legislator Albano questioned where the money went that was generated in 2012.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is part of the County budget. He stated there is a revenue line for OTB that the money goes right to. He stated the PILOT payments also go to that revenue line.

Legislator Albano questioned what the PILOT payments were.

Commissioner Carlin stated they are the amount shown on Resolution #288 of 2011. He reiterated that the payment amounts have been frozen, however the revenue coming in has decreased greatly.

Chairman Castellano questioned how much the 3% for the Town of Southeast and the 10% for the School District would equal.

Commissioner Carlin stated it would be about \$14,000 for both, down from about \$41,000. He stated it would be a very little effect to the Town of Southeast.

Chairman Castellano stated if this is going to be done on a percentage basis it can be reconsidered year by year.

Item #17 - 2014 Unaudited Annual Update Document/ Finance/ FYI

Commissioner Carlin stated the outside auditors, O'Connor Davies will come in on April 14, 2015 and begin their audit to do their field work for a few weeks.

Item #18 - Consumer Affairs/ Fines & Revenue Report/ FYI

Legislator LoBue questioned if the registration was increasing or decreasing.

Director Noel stated she will know better tomorrow, as it is the deadline. She stated Weights & Measures and Home Improvement are on target. She stated Plumbing & Mechanical Trades is 204 and Electrical is 218. She stated it is down a little and more people have shelved their licenses this year. She stated the shelving fee is \$50.00 and the registration fee is \$500.00 plus bond and insurance. She stated shelving allows the person to return and register when they are ready. She stated if the person does not shelf or register, they must be retested. She stated she would provide the number of issued licenses to the Legislature once that is available.

Item #19 - Other Business

a. Approval/ Litigation Settlement

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

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

Item #20 - Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Beth Green.