

the proposed 1.5% increase. He stated that it was also brought up in Committee the topic of the Blue Ribbon Panel that existed 5 or 6 years ago. He stated that he served on that panel and believed it was very successful. They tried to create parity in the management salaries with that of the surrounding counties. The salary adjustments were going to occur in the span of over three years. Unfortunately, it was only done the first year and then we were faced with the recession. He believed the Blue Ribbon Panel should be established again in January 2014 to address this parity issue in the management pay scale and to implement next year, a two or three year phase in schedule to increase these salaries, the way it was intended back in 2005.

Legislator Gross stated that the percentage on the requests for raises were all different. He stated that many of the employees deserve a raise and no raise was requested. He stated he wants parity and equity. He supports the 1.5% and felt that it brought some degree of fairness across the board. He is concerned about the union negotiations going on; however he believed that we needed to do something to get this quagmire under control.

Legislator DiCarlo stated that if we are going to argue that 1.5% isn't fair, then he believed that the few managers getting a higher percentage increase should be taken off the board as well. He believed that it couldn't be argued both ways because in essence we are creating "merit pay" based on what? He stated that debating issues was part of the democratic process. He did not believe that we would be setting a precedence by giving the 1.5% increase now and then forming the Blue Ribbon Panel. He believed there was more of a precedence being set by giving some people a \$3,000 to \$8,000 dollar increase.

Legislator Albano stated that he would be voting "no". He stated that he did believe in "merit pay". Employees should be recognized for performing over and above their duties. He believed that the 1.5% would be a great thing in the perfect world when finances are good. He believed that everyone does not perform their duties in the same manner. He would love to give everyone a raise. However, he did prefer to look at each individual case that is brought to the Legislature, hear the justification and determine if there is an adjustment that is necessary. He stated that you cannot look at the percentage of the requested raises because some of them are based on very low salaries.

Legislator Scuccimarra agreed with Legislator Albano. She believed that each individual request needed to be looked at when it comes to the Legislature. We need to trust the Department Head that their recommendations have merit. She did not believe that giving everyone a blanket raise was the way to go. She does understand that the system is broken and has been for quite a while and believed it would take some time to fix.

Legislator DiCarlo questioned who says that someone is working harder than anyone else. The Legislature has heard during the Committee process that some individuals have not had an increase for 4 or 5 years and those same people will not receive an adjustment in salary again this year. He believed that it was not fair that they would be overlooked again. He did not believe that government should be picking winners and losers. He believed that this was the same thing we were looking at in the federal government that is going on with Obama Care. They are telling people what they can receive health wise and what they can't. He believed that we were doing the same thing with our workers in Putnam County.

Legislator Albano stated that Obama Care is a blanket approach to everyone that he believed doesn't work. He believed that if people were rewarded based on performance this whole world would work better. This is what we are striving for; seeing people step up to the plate. He relied on the Department Head to make the recommendation. There are people that perform over and above. He believed that when the time comes that the County has extra money, which he felt would happen someday, we may make adjustments across the board because it is part of the inflation process.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she would be voting "no". She stated that she feels strongly about consistency and parity, however, she believed that the Committee process is in place where items are discussed and decisions are made. She believed that the Blue Ribbon Panel should be brought back to review the inequities in the management salaries. She did not feel it should be done in a snap judgment.

Legislator Oliverio stated that union employees in municipal government are protected and they receive their step and salary increases. However, it is unfortunate that our Managers and Directors are not. He believed that our Managers and Directors should be rewarded with the 1.5% increase for next year and the Blue Ribbon Panel should be formed to review the inequity and revamp the system.

Legislator LoBue believed that approving these individual high percentage raises would be unheard of when prior Legislators such as Tony Hay and Dan Birmingham were here. She believed that a compromise would be the 1.5% increase. She stated that in her opinion she wouldn't do anything. She believed that the economic condition is very bad and that we do not know what is coming. She stated that gasoline prices are dropping which means that the County could be facing a deficit in sales tax revenue. She believed that we should err on the side of caution. She did not believe that giving some managers high percentage raises was fair or sustainable.

Legislator Castellano stated that he understands the reasoning of a cost of living increase; however, there is a Committee process in place. He stated that during the Committee process the Legislature considerably reduced some of the requested increases. He believed that before we start working on management increases he would like to get the union contract resolved. He did not believe the timing was right and did not like the idea of a 1.5% increase across the board. He stated that we have good jobs here in Putnam County government. He stated that if a person feels they are being underpaid, they have the right to leave and get a better job.

Chairman Othmer stated that when he was a new Legislator and first became cognizant of the inequity between management and laborer he wondered why the senior Legislators hadn't solved this issue. He believed that the Blue Ribbon Panel should be formed again to address this inequity. Chairman Othmer gave credit to Legislator DiCarlo when he stated last January that we needed to get ahead of this issue now and not at budget time. However, Chairman Othmer stated that many of the Department Heads rearranged their budgets for 2014 to allow for the proposed raises for their employees.

Chairman Othmer requested a roll call vote on the proposed 1.5% manager increase.

By Roll Call Vote: Four Ayes – Legislators DiCarlo, Gross, LoBue and Oliverio. Five Nays – Legislators Albano, Castellano, Nacerino, Scuccimarra and Chairman Othmer. Motion Fails.

Item #3 – Pre-filed Resolutions.

Item #3a – Legislature – Office Supplies & Equipment Rental was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #222

Legislature

	FROM:	TO:
Office Supplies		
10101001 54310	5,500	5,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: (500)

Equipment Rental		
10101001 54560	2,250	2,025

A DIFFERENCE OF: (225)

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3b – County Executive – Furniture & Printing was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #223

County Executive

	FROM:	TO:
Furniture		
10123000 52110	1,000	900

A DIFFERENCE OF: (100)

Printing		
10123000 54311	700	630

A DIFFERENCE OF: (70)

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3c – County Clerk – Education & Training was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #224

County Clerk

	FROM:	TO:
Education & Training		
10141000 54640	3,000	2,500

A DIFFERENCE OF: (500)

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3d – Southeast Museum – County Contribution was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #225

Southeast Museum

	FROM:	TO:
County Contribution		
25756400 54950	27,000	30,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: 3,000

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3e – Cornell Cooperative Extension – County Contribution was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #226

Cornell Cooperative Extension

	FROM:	TO:
County Contribution		
25875000 54950	296,940	305,848

A DIFFERENCE OF: 8,908

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3f – Legislature – Update Electrical Ramp/Lift for Seniors @ Lake Carmel Community Center was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

Chairman Othmer stated that the Town of Kent does not have a Senior Center and the Lake Carmel Community Center lets them use their facility. Last year the Legislature funded a lift for the Community Center, however, we were informed that the electricity was not sufficient.

RESOLUTION #227

Legislature

	FROM:	TO:
Partnership Initiative		
Update Electrical Ramp/Lift for Seniors (Lake Carmel Community Center)		
10101001 54936	0	5,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: 5,000

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3g – Coroners – Coordinator of Coroners was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #228

Coroners

	FROM:	TO:
Coordinator of Coroners		
10118500 51000		
(118510991)	5,576	4,576
FICA	77	0
10118500 58002		

A DIFFERENCE OF: (1,077)

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR LOBUE. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #3h – County Executive – Confidential Secretary was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #229

County Executive

	FROM:	TO:
Confidential Secretary		
10123000 51000		
(123010906)	9,500	5,000
FICA	344	0
10123000 58002		

A DIFFERENCE OF: (4,844)

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

**BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. TWO NAYS – LEGISLATORS LOBUE & DICARLO.
MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #3i – Finance – Payroll Manager was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #230

Finance

	FROM:	TO:
Payroll Manager 10131000 51000 (131010908)	5,856	4,618
FICA 10131000 58002	95	0

A DIFFERENCE OF: (1,333)

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

**BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. TWO NAYS – LEGISLATORS LOBUE & DICARLO.
MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #3j – Health Department – Fiscal Manager was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #231

Health Department

	FROM:	TO:
Fiscal Manager 10401000 51000 (401010904)	6,935	4,935
FICA 10401000 58002	153	0

A DIFFERENCE OF: (2,153)

Revenue

State Aid Public Health 1040100 434011	0	(1,777)
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A DIFFERENCE OF: (1,777)

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

**BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. TWO NAYS – LEGISLATORS LOBUE & DICARLO.
MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #3k – County Historian was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #232

County Historian

	FROM:	TO:
Salary Adjustment 10751000 51000 (751110901)	13,593	7,000
FICA 10751000 58002	504	0

A DIFFERENCE OF: (7,097)

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

BY POLL VOTE: SIX AYES. THREE NAYS – LEGISLATORS DICARLO, LOBUE & OLIVERIO. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #3L – Office For Disabilities – Title Change was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #233

Office For Disabilities

	FROM:	TO:
Title Change 198910101	Clerk	Typist

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3m – Office For Aging – Title VI – Food Service Helper was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #234

Office For Aging – Title VI

	FROM:	TO:
Food Service Helper p/t 25 hours grade 2 step 1 10677400 51000 (677410115)	0	19,066
FICA 10677400 58002	0	2,656

A DIFFERENCE OF: 21,722

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3n – District Attorney – Part Time Typist was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #235

District Attorney

	FROM:	TO:
Temporary 10116500 51094	20,000	

A DIFFERENCE OF: (20,000)

Part Time Typist 10116500 51000 (116510121)	0	23,970
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FICA 10116500 58002	0	1,501
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A DIFFERENCE OF: 25,471

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3o – District Attorney – Criminal Investigator was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded for discussion by Legislator DiCarlo.

Legislator Oliverio requested that this item be placed in subcontingency. He stated that would allow more time to investigate whether the position should be in the Sheriff's Department or the District Attorney's. He stated that he was leaning more towards this position being in the Sheriff's Department.

Legislator Gross stated that it is in the District Attorney's bi-laws that he can have this position. He stated that there is no question that it is a needed position and was no need to place it in subcontingency.

There was no second to place the position in subcontingency.

Chairman Othmer stated that it was a needed position and he hoped that the Kent Police Department, the Carmel Police Department and the Sheriff's Department promote female investigators.

RESOLUTION #236

District Attorney

	FROM:	TO:
Criminal Investigator 10116500 51000 (116510122)	0	60,000
Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly	0	24,051

A DIFFERENCE OF: 84,051

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3p – Planning Department – Deputy Commissioner was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #237

Planning

	FROM:	TO:
Deputy Commissioner of Planning 10802000 51000 (802010110)	80,000	0
Adjust fringes and revenue accordingly	25,904	0
Subcontingency 10199000 54993	0	105,904

A DIFFERENCE OF: \$0

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #3q – Highways & Facilities – Deputy Commissioner was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

RESOLUTION #238

Highways & Facilities

	FROM:	TO:
Deputy Commissioner 10149000 51000 (149010911)	0	5,000
FICA 10149000 58002	0	383

A DIFFERENCE OF: 5,383

Adjust fringes and revenues accordingly.

BY POLL VOTE: SIX AYES. THREE NAYS – LEGISLATORS LOBUE, DICARLO & OLIVERIO. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #3r – Putnam County Tourism Promotion Agency was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following:

Putnam County Tourism Promotion Agency

	FROM:	TO:
Advertising 25641000 54664	5,000	0
Leased Transportation 25641000 54678	10,000	0
Subcontingency 10199000 54981	0	15,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: \$0

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: THREE AYES – LEGISLATORS DICARLO, LOBUE & OLIVERIO. SIX NAYS – LEGISLATORS ALBANO, CASTELLANO, GROSS, NACERINO, SCUCCIMARRA & CHAIRMAN OTHMER. MOTION FAILS.

Item #3s – Putnam County Economic Development Corporation was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded by Legislator LoBue for discussion.

Legislator LoBue brought these items forward in Committee. She requested that the money be placed in subcontingency so that the Legislature would have control over it before it was spent.

Legislator Oliverio concurred.

Chairman Othmer stated that after the Budget & Finance Meeting he spoke to both the Director of Tourism, Libby Pataki and President of the Putnam County Economic Development Corp., Meghan Taylor. He stated that they both conveyed that they need to have these funds available to them. He stated that if the money is placed in subcontingency, by the time the requests to utilize these funds go through all of the appropriate committees, the window of opportunity available to the Director of Tourism or the President of the EDC could be lost.

Legislator Scuccimarra concurred. She believed that \$25,000 dollars was a low Advertising budget. She believed that we needed to step up the game and need “to be in it to win it”.

Legislator Albano believed that by putting it in subcontingency was micromanaging. He had faith that the funds would be put to good use and that we would see what was going on during the course of the year.

Legislator Gross concurred. He believed that Ms. Taylor has demonstrated that she is getting things accomplished.

Legislator Nacerino believed that these two entities need to use their discretion on how to spend this money. They need to have the ability to perform their job accordingly.

Legislator LoBue stated that we have sat here time and time again looking like fools because money is being spent on projects and issues that we have no idea about. She believed that \$25,000 dollars was a lot of money and that as Legislators it was our job through the budget process to look at how this money was being spent. She stated that the EDC just had a cruise which she will request a breakdown of at the Audit Meeting. She did not understand how that had anything to do with Economic Development. She believed that by putting it in subcontingency it would be a measure of enacting cost control so the Legislature can follow the money before it is spent.

Legislator Albano stated that he has faith in these two entities to do what needs to be done. He asked Legislator LoBue to show him the discrepancies that she mentioned. He stated that the EDC Cruise brought together many individuals that add value to the economic development of Putnam County. He welcomed the opportunity to meet individuals at these types of events who have positive ideas about the future economic growth of the County.

Legislator Gross believed that a simple way to satisfy Legislator LoBue's concerns would be to have the Economic Development Committee ask for a monthly statement on where the funds are being spent.

Legislator LoBue stated that Meghan Taylor came before the Economic Development Committee and requested an additional \$25,000.00. She stated that part of those funds would be for a new website. Legislator LoBue stated that the website has already changed.

Legislator DiCarlo stated that the Budget & Finance Committee approved putting the funds in subcontingency. He stated that if Chairman Othmer received specific information from these individuals justifying the need for the funds, then this information should have been shared with all the Legislators. He stated that he did not receive anything on it. He stated that Legislator Gross' point is well taken. He believed that a statement should be provided at the end of the year of what funds have or have not been spent.

Chairman Othmer stated that Meghan Taylor relayed the information to him after the B&F mtg. He did not have a meeting with her as the Chairman of the Legislature. He believed that we needed to move forward with the times with respect to someone introducing new ideas in promoting economic development.

Chairman Othmer called for a roll call vote:

Public Private Partnership

Putnam County Economic

FROM:

TO:

Development Corporation 25642000 54950	25,000	0
Subcontingency 10199000 54981	0	25,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: \$0

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: THREE AYES – LEGISLATORS DICARLO, LOBUE & OLIVERIO.
SIX NAYS – LEGISLATORS ALBANO, CASTELLANO, GROSS, NACERINO,
SUCCIMARRA & CHAIRMAN OTHMER. MOTION FAILS.

Chairman Othmer stated that he would like to move Item #3t – Sales Tax Revenue to the end of the meeting to find out what the amounts will be from our changes and then adjust the Sales Tax accordingly.

Item #4 – Other Business.

Item #4a – Parks & Recreation – Maintenance & Repairs was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo.

Chairman Othmer stated that this allows for a list of repairs.

RESOLUTION #239

Parks & Recreation

	FROM:	TO:
Maintenance & Repairs 10711000 54710	12,000	0
Subcontingency 10199000 54985	0	12,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: \$0

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #4b – Probation – Records Management – Chargeback was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo.

RESOLUTION #240

	FROM:	TO:
Probation Chargeback Microfilm 10314000 55161	0	1,000
Records Management Chargeback Revenue 10146000 412941	0	(1,000)

A DIFFERENCE OF: \$0

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #4c – Capital Projects – Minor Renovations was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded by Legislators DiCarlo and Albano.

RESOLUTION #241

Capital Projects

	FROM:	TO:
Minor Renovations	200,000	0
Subcontingency 5989000 53000 50054	0	200,000

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #4e – Law Department – Two Proposed Attorney Positions was next.

Chairman Othmer stated that an attorney from the Law Department was transferred to the Department of Social Services. The Legislature received a letter from the County Attorney a few days ago asking to reinstate this position along with a request for an additional attorney position in her office. Chairman Othmer did not believe we could afford this at this time and did not know if we would have the votes to approve this.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to approve the Law Department’s request for two new attorney positions; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo.

By Roll Call Vote: Nine Nays. Motion Fails.

Item #4f – Department of Social Services – Deputy Commissioner was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded by Legislator Albano.

Chairman Othmer stated that the Legislature received a request to increase the Deputy Commissioner of Social Services salary by \$5,000. Although he realizes that it is not good practice to accept a late request for a salary adjustment, in this case he wanted to recommend a salary increase of \$2,500 as it was overlooked during the original budget submission.

Legislator Scuccimarra agreed. She stated that each Department needed to be looked at separately and she believed that at times there were extenuating circumstances. She believed this was one of them.

Legislator Oliverio stated that based upon the current salary this requested increase was a bit under the 5% which is what he has been supporting. He believed that this individual deserved this increase.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she acknowledged the value of this individual, however she still felt strongly that the budget process needed to be honored. The Budget was vetted through the Committee process and a Public Hearing was held. She believed that

to bring forward this request at such a late date seems to defy our process; therefore she would be voting “no”.

Legislator LoBue stated that this person always goes above and beyond his duties; however, to be consistent, unfortunately she would be voting “no”.

Legislator Gross agreed that he was an outstanding individual. He stated that we stick to the process or we don't and that is what makes this whole situation very difficult. He stated that he would also be voting “no”.

Legislator DiCarlo stated that we either have a process or we don't. It does not have anything to do with the individual. He stated that there are other employees who have been overlooked in the process. He stated that it needed to be equitable across the board.

Legislator Oliverio stated that we needed to understand that this position was going to receive the increase from the get go. The Commissioner of Social Services' letter stated that it was an error on his part. He believed that the request would have been part of our budgetary process if the error had not been made.

Legislator Albano concurred. He stated that he would support the request.

Legislator Gross did not realize the correspondence from the Commissioner stated that it was a mistake on his part. Legislator Gross stated that based on that he would change his vote.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to amend his \$2,500 request and increase the salary by \$5,000; seconded by Legislator Albano.

RESOLUTION #242

Department of Social Services

Deputy Commissioner

**Social Services
10120000 51000
(601020917)**

FROM:

TO:

0

2,250

**Mental Health
10431000 51000
(601020917)**

0

2,250

**Youth Bureau
10731000 51000
(601020917)**

0

500

**FICA (Social Services)
10120000 58002**

0

172

FICA (Mental Health)

10431000 58002	0	172
FICA (Youth Bureau)	0	39

A DIFFERENCE OF: 5, 383

Adjust fringes and revenue accordingly.

REVENUE

Deputy Commissioner of Social Services

Salary Adjustment

10101000 446101	0	(1,287)
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10101000 436101	0	(907)
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A DIFFERENCE OF: (2,194)

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. FOUR NAYS – LEGISLATORS CASTELLANO, DICARLO, LOBUE & NACERINO. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #4g – Putnam Arts Council – Increase County Contribution was next.

Legislator LoBue stated that the County Contribution for the Putnam Arts Council was \$10,000 dollars. She made a motion to increase that amount by \$3,000 dollars; seconded for discussion by Legislator Oliverio.

Legislator LoBue stated that the Putnam Arts Council probably did not request an increase because they assumed they would be denied. She believed that since all of the other outside agencies came forward asking for an increase, Putnam Arts Council should receive one as well. She believed that one of the key factors of tourism was Arts and Culture.

Legislator Oliverio believed that there were other outside agencies having the same mindset that they wouldn't receive an increase too. However, there were those who took the step to request it and they received the increase. He stated that he was torn in his decision with this request.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that she is a supporter of the Arts; however, she has no backup information on this request.

Chairman Othmer requested a roll call vote.

By Roll Call Vote: Four Ayes – Legislators Albano, DiCarlo, LoBue and Chairman Othmer. Five Nays – Legislators Castellano, Gross, Nacerino, Oliverio and Scuccimarra. Motion Fails.

Item #4h – County Executive – Director of Constituent Services was next.

Legislator LoBue made a motion to defund the Director of Constituent Services position in the County Executive's office; seconded for discussion by Legislator DiCarlo.

Legislator LoBue stated that this person is driving the County Executive to public functions which she believed was a waste of taxpayers' money.

Chairman Othmer stated that the County Executive took the budget that they inherited from the previous Administration and readjusted it to include a Director of Constituent Services position. He stated that not only is the person in this position a driver, but he is a troubleshooter for constituent concerns on a daily basis. He stated that it is a misrepresentation to say he is just a driver.

Legislator Albano concurred with Chairman Othmer. He stated that he has seen the County Executive attend more meetings and functions than any County Executive in the past. He believed there were times when it is appropriate for the County Executive to have a driver, especially being a woman attending these functions at night. He stated that the person in that position does perform other Administrative tasks and the amount of the salary is in the ballpark.

Legislator Gross stated that the County Executive travels to evening events all over the County. He believed it was a security issue.

Legislator DiCarlo stated that we should remember tonight that we are talking about the positions and not individual people. There is no reason why the Legislature cannot ask what the responsibility is of particular positions. The money could be placed in subcontingency.

Legislator Nacerino stated that this position was established as the Director of Constituent Services. She believed that to define it as a driver diminishes the job in of its self. She believed these questions should have been addressed earlier in the budget process.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that the Legislature has had the budget for weeks now. She believed that by bringing it up tonight was a little bit of grandstanding.

Legislator Oliverio agreed with Legislator DiCarlo. He stated that the position could be placed in subcontingency and we could ask for a job description to be sent to the Personnel Committee meeting. It could be pulled out of subcontingency at the Audit Meeting the same month. He believed that was a compromise.

Legislator LoBue stated that historically the County Executive always traveled with the Deputy County Executive. She stated that if the County Executive needed security, then that was a different issue.

Chairman Othmer requested a roll call vote on the motion to defund the position.

By Roll Call Vote: One Aye – Legislator LoBue. Eight Nays – Legislators Albano, Castellano, DiCarlo, Gross, Nacerino, Oliverio, Scuccimarra and Chairman Othmer. Motion Fails.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to move the position to subcontingency; seconded by Legislator Oliverio.

By Roll Call Vote: Four Ayes – Legislators DiCarlo, Gross, LoBue and Oliverio. Five Nays – Legislators Albano, Castellano, Nacerino, Scuccimarra and Chairman Othmer. Motion Fails.

Item #4i – County Executive – Temporary Line was next.

Legislator LoBue stated that there was a person being paid under the tourism line last year, however they were working for the County Executive. This person was then moved over and being paid out of the County Executive’s Temporary Line for \$18,237.25. She stated that in the County Executive’s Tentative Budget the County Executive approved a \$10,824.00 increase. She did not believe that it was a necessity for the County Executive to have a Press Secretary.

Legislator LoBue made a motion to defund this position of approximately \$30,000 dollars; seconded for discussion by Legislator DiCarlo.

Chairman Othmer called for a roll call vote.

By Roll Call Vote: One Aye – Legislator LoBue. Eight Nays – Legislators Albano, Castellano, DiCarlo, Gross, Nacerino, Oliverio, Scuccimarra and Chairman Othmer. Motion Fails.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to place the position in subcontingency; seconded by Legislator Oliverio.

By Roll Call Vote: Three Ayes – Legislators DiCarlo, LoBue and Oliverio. Six Nays – Legislators Albano, Castellano, Gross, Nacerino, Scuccimarra and Chairman Othmer. Motion Fails.

Item #4j – Sheriff’s Department – Inspector General was next.

Legislator LoBue made a motion to defund the Inspector General position in the Sheriff’s Department; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo.

RESOLUTION #243

Sheriff’s Department

	FROM:	TO:
Inspector General 10311000 51000 (311010124)	73,387	0
Adjust fringes and revenue accordingly	25,368	0

A DIFFERENCE OF: (98,755)

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. ONE NAY – LEGISLATOR OLIVERIO. MOTION CARRIES.

Further discussion on the Inspector General position took place after Item #3t.

At 8:17 p.m., Chairman Othmer made a motion to recess the meeting; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

At 8:23 p.m., Chairman Othmer made a motion to reconvene; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

Item #3t – Sales Tax Revenue was next.

Chairman Othmer stated that with the adjustments made this evening we are currently at 1.72%. The sales tax revenue needs to be increased by \$22,264 dollars to bring it to the 1.66% tax cap.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to increase the Sales Tax Revenue by \$22, 264 dollars; seconded by Legislators Oliverio and DiCarlo.

RESOLUTION #244

	FROM:	TO:
<u>Sales Tax Revenue</u>		
10131000 411100	52,475,565.00	52,493,858.00

Offset Changes to the Tentative Budget by the County Legislature to conform the tax rate change to comply with the Tax Cap requirement of 1.66%.

A DIFFERENCE OF: \$18,293

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he wanted to revisit Item #4j – Inspector General.

Legislator Oliverio stated that there was no prior notice given and he was not privy to what was discussed in caucus. He stated that he was very upset because all through the meeting we have been posturing about how fair, righteous and transparent our budget process is. He stated that by eliminating a position without discussion in any of our prior Budget Committee meetings was very upsetting. He believed that the Sheriff had the legal right to appoint to this position just like the County Executive did. This was the reason he voted to put positions in subcontingency and not eliminate the two positions in the County Executive’s budget. He believed that the Sheriff and the County Executive knows what is best for their departments. The Legislature could put the positions in subcontingency and request an explanation. This is what he would have preferred for the Inspector General position. There was no motion made or vote taken in any prior Committee to eliminate this position. He believed this was about pure politics. He believed this was a bad idea and was wrong.

Legislator LoBue stated that she wanted to clarify that this was brought up and discussed in a Budget Committee meeting. It was also her understanding that the Inspector General position was supposed to sunset. She stated that the Inspector

General position is approximately \$74,000 dollars, with benefits bringing it to over \$100,000 dollars. She did not see the necessity of the position.

Legislator Gross stated that this was not about politics. He stated that it was his understanding when he became a Legislator that this position would sunset. He stated that in his experience in the military the Inspector General is someone that is only responsible to the base commander and they act in a capacity all throughout the unit. He believed that an Inspector General for Putnam County should act throughout all the departments in the County as well. This was something he would support. He did not believe that having someone in one department inspecting only that department was healthy.

Legislator Oliverio believed that if it was so important to eliminate this position, then why wasn't it brought up in the Budget & Finance Committee, or moved in the Personnel or Audit Committees? He stated that he was very disappointed that he had no prior knowledge this was coming. He stated that this war that is going on between the District Attorney, the Conservatives and the Sheriff has to stop. It is destroying us.

Legislator LoBue clarified that this was not discussed in caucus. She stated that her understanding after the Committee meeting that people felt this position wasn't something necessary going forward. She stated that she wanted to be very clear how she came to her decision and it wasn't based on any comments that Legislator Oliverio made. It was based on the fact that this was a cost savings to justify the raises which she didn't support.

Chairman Othmer stated that as he mentioned at the beginning of the meeting, there were tough decisions that needed to be made. He stated that in support of what Legislator Gross stated, Chairman Othmer stated that he did speak to the Sheriff's office about a County-wide Inspector General position. Chairman Othmer believed it would be great to have this position available to every County Department and Town Supervisor. He believed that this was something he would support.

Item #5a – Approval of the Budget Resolutions was next. Chairman Othmer moved the following.

RESOLUTION #245

APPROVAL OF THE 2014 BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby approves the 2014 budget resolutions as pre-filed by the Budget & Finance Committee and amended by the Legislature on October 30, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the individual votes on each budget resolution be made a part of this resolution.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #5b - Approval/Resolution Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 Commencing January 1, 2014 Making Appropriations for the Operation of the County Government and

Establishing Rates of Compensation for Officers and Employees for the Fiscal Year 2014. Chairman Othmer moved the following; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo.

Legislator DiCarlo stated that this was his last budget and he wanted to complement his colleagues. He stated to the new Legislators that this is a Democratic process. He stated that our government doesn't even have a process because our Senate doesn't even take anything that they get from the House of Representatives. They do not even debate anything. He stated that, as you saw tonight, this Legislature does not "rubber stamp" anything. This is part of the Legislative process and it is healthy to debate issues. He stated that we are here to represent our constituents and share opinions. We can agree to disagree, but in the end we will walk out of here doing the best that we could have done. He stated that we will communicate, be friends and move forward. He thanked everyone for working together through this process.

RESOLUTION #246

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2014 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND ESTABLISHING RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has met and considered the Tentative Budget as submitted by the County Executive and has held a Public Hearing thereon pursuant to both Article 7.04(b)(4) of the Putnam County Charter and Section 359 of the County Law of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature has made certain adjustments to the Tentative Budget as submitted by the County Executive which are included as part of this budget adoption; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts the Tentative Budget, as amended by this Legislature which sets forth the appropriations for the objects and purposes as specified, and further establishes the rates of compensation to be paid provided that said tentative budget as amended does not exceed the 1.66% tax cap as provided for in state law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this act takes effect on January 1, 2014.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business, at 8:38 P.M., Legislator Oliverio made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.