

PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
Held In Room #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Members:
Chairman Albano, Legislators Othmer & Scuccimarra

Tuesday

March 19, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 8:10p.m. by Chairman Albano. He requested that Legislator Scuccimarra lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Othmer, Scuccimarra and Chairman Albano were present.

Item #3) Approval of Minutes-Physical Svcs Committee Mtg, February 11, 2013
Chair Albano accepted the minutes as submitted.

Item #4) Approval/Properties to be listed on Multiple Listing Services (MLS) Pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Putnam County Code

Legislator Othmer made a motion to approve the Properties to be listed on the Multiple Listing Services (MLS); Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Legislator Nacerino questioned what the criteria were that designated a property to be sold through the MLS process or the County Auction process.

Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that they reviewed all of the properties that the County has acquired through the 2008 Liens. There was a team set up of representatives from the County Finance Department, Law Department, Real Property and the County Executive's Office. He stated that basically they took all of the improved properties that they felt were marketable and could sell at a higher price through a Real Estate Broker through the MLS process. He stated that they looked at lot size and location with consideration of whether the property could be subdivided or buildable.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that the process is very transparent and open. He stated that the bundles of properties were put together based on their assessed value. He stated that each bundle is equal in assessed value.

Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that each of the four (4) bundles will be assigned a number, each Realtor will pick a number and the corresponding number is the bundle of properties that Realtor will have.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned how the Realtors were chosen.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that they were chosen through the RFP process.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned if the County assessed all of the properties.

Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that the properties were assessed by the corresponding Town Assessor.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned what happens if the Realtor cannot get the assessed value price for a property.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that some of them may not get the assessed value. He stated that it is in the Brokers best interest to fetch the best price for the property.

County Executive Odell stated that she would like to remind the committee members that the Legislature has the final approval on the offers. She stated that is contained in the resolution that was passed.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that the Law passed dictates the entire procedure that will take place.

Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that in respect to how the initial prices for properties will be set; the brokers will do a Comparative Market Analysis (CMA). He stated that will provide a fair market price for a property.

Legislator Castellano questioned if the properties/homes are vacant.

Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that most of them are.

County Executive Odell stated that she has had conversations with the Real Estate Brokers that will be involved in this process. She stated that they are very enthusiastic and they are very interested in working together. She stated that the real estate business under normal circumstances is a very competitive business. However in this situation they are all willing to work together to make this program successful. She stated that she is very positive that the spring Real Estate Market is going to open up, lenders are ready to go. She stated that this is going to be a very fruitful endeavor.

Chair Albano stated that this is a Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Although there are only four (4) Realtors listed once the properties are posted on the MLS system every realtor in the County will have access to the listings.

County Executive Odell stated that this is an open and transparent process. She stated that before it was closed bidding; insider trading deals. The only ones who benefited were those on the inside. She stated that the MLS process will put it out there worldwide.

Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that he would like to echo what County Executive Odell stated. He has been communicating with the Realtors and it is evident that they want to work together as a team, which is quite unusual. In addition, the properties will be in the MLS so

every broker in the Northern Westchester and Putnam County area will have access to these properties.

Item #5) Updates/Verbal Putnam National Course

Commissioner Pena stated that there was an RFP that closed the second week in February. He stated that there were ten (10) proposals. He stated that a committee was comprised of himself, Deputy Commissioner Tully, Deputy County Executive Walker, County Attorney Bumgarner, Deputy County Attorney Fusco, Purchasing Director Mazzotta and Commissioner of Finance Carlin. He stated five (5) out of the ten (10) were selected to be a part of the interview process. He stated there were second interviews conducted with three of the proposers. He stated that the following were chosen to comprise a team to run the Putnam National Golf Course: Michael McCall, General Contractor, Applied Golf LLC, Golf Management & Homestyle Food Service & Caterers LLC, Food and Beverage. He introduced Mr. McCall, who was present at the meeting. He stated that Mr. McCall was selected based on his experience, knowledge of golf course general management. He stated that Mr. McCall's main focus will be on profit and loss. He stated that Applied Golf LLC is a medium size golf company that will handle the golf side of the facility. The County is still negotiating and working to finalizing the details of that proposal. He stated that Homestyle Food Service & Caterers LLC's main role will be to provide food and beverage to the golfers and develop the banquet side of the business. He stated that at this point the focus is going to be put on getting golf, food and beverage up and running. He stated that the long range goals are to pursue a full time restaurant, art gallery and more. He stated that this team has some very interesting ideas that they would like to pursue and propose. However currently the goal is to get the golf and food service up and running. He stated that they are moving forward with the East of Hudson (EOH) projects on the parking lot and the retention ponds. He stated that they are moving forward with the purchase of equipment.

Michael McCall stated that he is happy to be a part of this project. He stated that he believes it is a great asset. He stated that he believes that this is a very interesting partnership that will be very effective. He stated that his role will provide a check and balance, which was missing in the past.

Chair Albano stated that previously it was reported that approximately 60 plus events were booked at the course. He questioned what the status of the events is.

Commissioner Pena stated that number of booked events was not accurate.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that Deputy County Attorney Fusco is working with the previous caterers, Colonial Caterers on this matter. As it turns out there were not sixty (60) plus events booked with deposits. She stated the details are being worked out.

Chair Albano questioned if it is more like thirty (30) events.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that would be closer to the actual number.

Commissioner Pena stated that he would like to give credit to the previous caterers, Colonial Caterers. He stated that the final decisions between Colonial Caterers and the newly selected caterers was not an easy decision. He stated that all parties are working together to close out everything and move forward.

Chair Albano questioned if Michael McCall is a County Employee or Independent Contractor.

Commissioner Pena stated that Mr. McCall is an Independent Contractor.

Legislator Othmer asked when the black topping in the parking lot at the golf course will be completed.

Commissioner Pena stated that they are working with the EOH Corporation, and are moving forward. He stated he does not have a completion date at this time.

Legislator Othmer stated that he hopes that a local black top company will be selected to do the project.

Deputy County Executive Walker stated that once the project goes through the design approval phase with the EOH Corporation, then a construction bid will be put out.

Legislator Othmer would like preference to be given to out Putnam County black top companies.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated the County cannot do that. There is an RFP process that must be adhered to.

Legislator Oliverio questioned if Mr. McCall believes the course will be open in time to allow the local school golf teams to utilize the course.

Mr. McCall stated that he has already been contacted and is communicating with the Putnam Valley School and Mahopac School. He stated that the plan was to open this past weekend. However due to the weather, they were unable to meet that opening date, so it will open very soon, and yes they will be able to accommodate the local school's golf teams.

**Item #6) Updates/Correspondence From: Chair Albano To: County Executive Odell
CC: Commissioner Pena
a.) Maintenance and Storage Plan for the new equipment/Putnam National
Golf Course**

6a.) Commissioner Pena stated that as part of the purchase of the equipment and looking at the facility details as part of the facility renovations. He stated that there are three areas that they are looking at for storage: the small storage workshop behind the main facility, the barn. Which will require some renovations and the historic barn.

Chair Albano questioned who will provide the maintenance for the new and existing equipment.

Mr. McCall stated that Applied Golf LLC will provide the maintenance on the equipment.

Legislator Oliverio stated that years ago when he toured the grounds there was an underground storage area, where the pool used to be. He questioned if that storage area is still there.

Commissioner Pena stated that he would have to check. However he does not believe that it is there.

b.) 2013 NYSAC Resolution #1- Urging Greater Investment in the State's Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and Marchiselli Program

c.) 2013 NYSAC Resolution #3 – Urging the Governor and the Legislature of the State of New York to Create a State Aid to Local Bridge & Culvert Program to Increase Bridge Safety, Promote Economic Development and Create and Retain Jobs

d.) Peekskill Hollow Road Bridge-Update on “Red Flag” Status

6b, c & d) Commissioner Pena read from a statement he had prepared. (copy is attached) . Essentially he expressed the value and importance of the vast Federal and State Funding. He stated that Putnam County needs to put a focus on how to best utilize the funding. He stated that there are many categories that funding can be received to help offset the costs such as health related issues, energy efficiency improvements, disaster relief and infrastructure work, these are just a few of the many categories. He stated that he supports each of these NYSAC resolutions.

Commissioner Pena stated that the execution of grants in Putnam County needs to be vastly improved. He stated as he reviews the history of grants that were applied for by the Highway & Facilities Department and the Planning Department, there is a potential for the County to lose millions of construction dollars. He stated that a Grant Manager to help identify and understand the full implication and responsibilities of the County and to track the grants is sorely needed.

Chair Albano stated that he has expressed in the past and will again, the Grant Manager is a key position and supports filling that position. He stated that he knows that Putnam County has missed out on funding opportunities in the past.

Commissioner Pena stated that there is also the issue of lack of tracking pertaining to the grant process. He stated that brings him to the next matter he would like to address. He stated that when he first joined the Putnam County Team, he received correspondence from the New York State Department of Transportation Assistant Director Bill Gordon. Mr. Gordon sent a long list of Putnam County Projects that he asked to investigate to give him a status report on each one. He stated during the investigation process some very complicated matters were discovered as well as missed opportunities. He provided a report that he compiled highlighting the facts that have been uncovered. He stated that some of the projects have been de-obligated for design purposes and construction purposes. He stated that they have identified three specific projects: 1) Sodom Road 2) Peekskill Hollow Road 3) Stoneleigh Avenue & Drewville Road.

Chair Albano made a motion to approve the additional and waive the rules; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Legislator Othmer requested a definition of de-obligated.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant (who was formally introduced later during the meeting) stated that the State of New York has a “step” & “time frame” process that must be followed. It is a progression method. One step must be completed within a specified time frame before moving onto the next step. She stated that the State of New York in reviewing contracts that were executed with Putnam County found that steps were not completed.

Commissioner Pena stated that in the grant process, once the contract is signed there is an obligation to complete the project in its entirety. He stated if a step is missed and you do not meet the time frame set those dollars disappear.

Legislator Othmer questioned if the County had started the projects.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that yes the projects were started. She stated that some of the projects have been abandoned. The County received a pardon from the NYS DOT on one matter. That is when dollars were rolled over to start Peekskill Hollow Road, and design approval was obtained. She stated in her opinion this is one of the most critical projects for the County, due to the status of the “Red Flag Bridge”. She provided further detail on the matter.

Chair Albano requested that Commissioner Pena’s guest be introduced.

Commissioner Pena stated that he brought Ms. Blaustein on board in his effort to develop his Engineering Division. He stated that he has seen through his research that the County lacks the understanding and ability to execute Federally Funded Projects and Construction Projects. He stated that Ms. Blaustein has a background in this area. He stated that she is currently

hired as a Consultant. She is a potential candidate who may fill one of the positions that is vacant under the Engineering Department of the Highway & Facilities Department.

Legislator Othmer questioned if there is only one project that has been abandoned.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated no there is more than one. She stated for the past ten (10) years she has worked with the New York State Department (NYS DOT) of Transportation. She stated due to the fact that your County does not have someone who is knowledgeable of the system; you are being taken advantage of. She stated that every time there is a time delay in the process, due to the inaccurate execution of a step, time is lost. She is working to repair the relationship between Putnam County and the NYS DOT.

Commissioner Pena reiterated that Putnam County currently does not have a good reputation for being able to apply for a grant, become a grantee and execute the grant. He stated that there are loops on the cover page of his report. He explained that the loops are symbolic of how you can get stuck in one of these loops in one of the steps and spend years there. (*The Steps listed on his cover page are: Project Contract Execution between State & County, Design Phase- Contract Between County and Designer, ROW, Project Construction, Project Closeout*).

Chair Albano stated that he heard about the Step process when he was touching base while the Carmel Sidewalk Project was going on. He stated also it was mentioned as he touched base on the Maybrook Bikeway project. He stated it was reported to him that there was 3 million dollars lost on a project that was ready to go. He stated that it is very apparent to him that there is a void that must be filled in our system.

Commissioner Pena stated that the three projects that he is presenting to this Committee tonight: Sodom Road, Peekskill Hollow Road and Stoneleigh & Drewville Avenue are the projects that they believe fall in the category of "critical time frame". He stated if the County executes these projects successfully the County demonstrates that they are able to complete projects.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that \$730,000 is the total amount of dollars for the three projects. She went into further detail in reference to the Stoneleigh & Drewville Avenue intersection project.

Legislator Oliverio questioned what part of the Peekskill Hollow Road is being addressed. He stated that the Putnam Valley High School has never been in compliance with a turning lane. That was to be corrected. He looked for confirmation that the project being discussed is the phase that starts from the Putnam Valley High School .

Commissioner Pena stated that the official project is to Adams Corners, however the scope of the project has been greatly reduced because the dollars are no longer available. He stated that they are value engineering the project to include the bridge. He stated that the bridge that has been labeled a "Red Flagged Bridge" is part of the project as well. He stated that the bridge restoration is part of the project. However the reconfiguration did reduce the dollars available, so they will not be able to achieve to Adams Corners. He stated that the primary project now is from the High School, the intersection turning lane.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated it is the original design, however it has been scaled back to make the residents happy and stayed within the limits. She stated that the name cannot be changed because it would put up a red flag. She stated it is the same project, with the same name and the same limits. She stated from the High School to the intersection there will be some road striping put there.

County Executive Odell stated that she had a phone conversation with Commissioner Joan McDonald from the NYS DOT. She stated that she described the County's situation as far as being a new Administration and inheriting these issues and the magnitude of the issues. Commission McDonald stated that she recognizes the situation Putnam County is in. She stated that Commission McDonald is extremely amenable to coming to Putnam County. She has been here three times already addressing different projects, and she has said that she will come back again to meet with us to assist with coming up with a remedy so the County can get to where we need to be. She stated that she will have her office schedule a meeting and will invite the Chair of Physical Services to be a part of that meeting and any other parties that may be interested in sitting in on the meeting. She stated that Commissioner McDonald stated that she wants the County to get this projects completed.

Chair Albano questioned what will happen to the other projects, such as Fair Street. He questioned if they are on hold for now.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that these three projects are the ones that they have chosen to focus on. The funding is dropping right now. She stated that they are so tight to a deadline on these three projects.

Commissioner Pena stated that these projects are time sensitive. He stated that so far the County has spent \$620,000 on the Peekskill Hollow Road project. He stated that the dollars that were expended and reimbursed, if the project is not completed, the reimbursed dollars would need to be repaid to the State as an incomplete project. He stated that is what is at stake here in combination with the dollars spent, \$620,000 plus the \$330,000. He stated additionally the 7.7million dollars of construction dollars that are available, including right away acquisition. He stated that this is fairly consistent throughout many of the projects. He stated the design phase has been completed on these three projects. Unfortunately some of them are no longer valid.

Victor Tiship, Constituent, stated that he understands that there are gratings that needs to be replaced on the bridge on the Peekskill Hollow Road. He understands there are a few options on how to address this matter.

Commissioner Pena stated that there are re-hab the gratings on the bridge. He stated that the Red Flag on the bridge was on the South Bound side, and it has been blocked off with jersey barriers to close it off from traffic. He stated that it is no longer a safety issue because it has been closed off. He stated that the North Bound has a Yellow Flag rating.

Victor Tiship, Constituent stated that there was an initial project proposed by the NYSDOT to do work from Oregon Corners to Adams Corners. It was a complete rebuild: straightening and widening of Peekskill Hollow Road. The public was assured that proposal was dead and gone.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that is correct. The bridge and the culvert will be repaired, lines will be painted and guardrails repaired. She stated that there will be a small vertical alignment done on the road after the bridge.

Legislator Othmer stated that what Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant is stating is under the guides of the grants that the County is getting, the County cannot abandon the project totally.

Victor Tiship, Constituent stated that part of the deterioration of the Peekskill Hollow roadway has been caused by the presence of large trucks that travel that road. He stated that he has been working to get a weight restriction passed and enforced by the County. However he stated that he has been told that the County does not have the authority to enforce a weight restriction, per the New York State Traffic Law. He stated that he does not agree with that interpretation of the law.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he wrote and requested that the County Law Department provide legal opinion as to whether the County has the authority to enforce a weight restriction. He stated that he has not heard back from them yet.

Commissioner Pena stated that he has conferred with the County Law Department and he is confident and comfortable with the limits of his authority to place weight restrictions signs. He stated that he has reviewed all of the information that Mr. Tiship has provided on this matter, and it was addressed as the Traffic Safety Board. He does disagree with Mr. Tiship's interpretation of the law.

Victor Tiship, Constituent stated that is not correct.

Commissioner Pena stated that he had requested that Mr. Tiship confer with a lawyer, as he did.

Victor Tiship, Constituent stated that he did contact the NYSDOT Law Department and he was told in their opinion the County does have the authority to enforce the weight restriction.

Chair Albano stated that we will follow up to get the legal opinion that has been requested of our County Law Department and bring it forward to this committee for review. He requested that the Clerk please send a follow up correspondence to the Law Department.

Commissioner Pena stated that he will continue on his previous discussion. He stated that the design dollars for Peekskill Hollow Road are either overspent or no longer available. In order to revitalize this project or any project, the County will need to invest County dollars to do that. He continued with his breakdown of the project. He recommended that the County revitalize the Peekskill Hollow Road project by investing \$460,000.00. He stated that in conversations that he has had with the local project unit of the NYS DOT, they were happy to hear that the County was looking to take interest in revitalizing these projects.

Legislator Othmer questioned the \$327,258.87 that is listed on the handout as “Expended Dollars to Potentially Reimburse”, as to whether the County would receive that.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant explained that due to the lack of procedure in the past, that money will not be reimbursed.

Commissioner Pena stated that some of the \$460,000.00 may be reimbursable. He stated that he has been meeting with the local project unit on that.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that is not a definite, she cannot promise that.

Commissioner Pena stated that this is a valid viable project.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that in part II of the project, if the County has a person who can manage the project they could take off some of the management fees from the back end.

Legislator Othmer stated for clarification that the request is for the County to approve a Bond in the amount of \$730,000 to revitalize these three projects. He questioned, if it is approved, will the County still be within the 2% Tax Cap.

Commissioner Carlin stated that it will be figured in. He stated that there is a “Red Flag” bridge that has been identified.

Deputy County Executive Walker stated that he is not suggesting it, but the projects could be split up.

Commissioner Pena stated that there are outstanding bills that must be paid.

Chair Albano stated that the County needs to pay those bills.

Legislator Othmer stated that there are advantages to having multiple projects being worked on simultaneously.

Commissioner Pena stated that he needs to repeat that the \$730,000 is just to reimburse outstanding debt with a design firm and have some working capital to start the design process again. He continued to discuss the financial commitments on these three projects.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that these projects are federally regulated.

Chair Albano stated that these projects will need to be micro-managed, because of the time sensitivity associated to them.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she agrees with the proposal. She questioned if any of these grants are matching grants.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant she stated that some of them are. In those cases they would have to ask for approval.

Legislator Nacerino stated that since these are time sensitive projects she believes that the County needs to be aware of any fiscal impact in advance. She questioned how we get that information in advanced.

Legislator Oliverio stated that the reason the Legislature passed the resolution requiring approval must be obtained by the Legislature before applying for a grant was to avoid situations of the County taking action to secure grants for projects that the County Residents did not support. Such as the initial Peekskill Hollow Road project, that actually was the one that instituted the change in the procedure.

Legislator Othmer stated that the people in charge, at that time were incapable of administering it or explaining it to the Legislature.

Legislator Oliverio stated that may have been some of it. Regardless the Legislature was held accountable by the residents, when in fact the Legislature had no prior knowledge that the grant was being pursued.

County Executive Odell stated to Legislator Oliverio's comments. She stated that she believes it was the culture of the time. The thinking was if there is money grab it. She stated that she believes that we have learned from that. She stated regardless, what has been learned is that there has to be someone who tracks these grants/projects. She stated moving forward; let us be mindful of this evening's discussion when we are reviewing the budget lines.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he is impressed that Commissioner Pena has been able to revise the Peekskill Hollow Road project.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that she is putting together a five (5) year plan for the County. She stated that the plan will earmark the Roads that she recommend be planned to apply for a grant to maintain.

Legislator Othmer questioned if Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant is a Civil Engineer.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant she stated that she is not. She reviewed her experience and level of expertise in this field. She stated that she works to coordinate projects for municipalities.

Commissioner Pena stated that there will be plenty of opportunity to scope out what these projects are going to look like before a commitment is made to execute. He stated as projects move forward and there are complications, there are ways to extend time. It just needs to be done through the framework of the grants.

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant conducted insight into the Map21 project. According to her report Washington and New York State are beginning to restrict release of funding. She stated this money will decrease. If there is not an employee in place

dedicated to grabbing the funding while it is available, Putnam County will lose opportunities and tax your community.

Commissioner Carlin stated that we need to trust Commissioner Pena to apply for the grants that will maintain the roads in Putnam County and not repress through the process. He stated that the final say on funding needs to come through the Legislature for approval. He stated that while time is spent debating whether a grant should be applied for or not, the County could be missing out on the grant or we may not even get the grant. He stated that he does not support stopping the process at the application phase. He stated that he supports trusting the Commissioner to apply for the grants for the roads that he believes the County needs to apply to, and then come to the Legislature.

Commissioner Pena stated that what he believes that we are looking at is a much improved process. He stated that they are creating an asset management. They are looking ahead, and creating a five (5) year capital plan. He stated that they are working towards a process that will be much more transparent.

Chair Albano stated that there is a good group of people working here to address and protect the matters affecting the County.

Legislator Scuccimarra inquired as to what the next step is now.

Commissioner Carlin stated that this committee needs to pass a resolution in support of this Bond for \$730,000.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned how the Legislature can give Commissioner Pena the authority.

Commissioner Carlin stated that you can amend the resolution that requires approval from the Legislature before applying for a grant. (Putnam County Code Section 5-1(D)).

Legislator Othmer stated that he would like to amend that requirement.

Clerk of the Legislature Schonfeld stated that clause is in the Appropriations Law, which goes through the Audit and Administration Committee.

Chair Albano stated that he would like to move this bond proposal.

Legislator Nacerino supports amending the Appropriations Law. She stated she wants to be a part of the solution not part of the problem. She stated that she is aware that when applying for these grants time is of the essence. She stated that she supports Commissioner Pena wholeheartedly. She stated that the Legislature needs to be on the page where we entrust the Department Heads to do their jobs.

Legislator Castellano questioned what the drawback would be if the policy is changed and a grant is applied for, issued and then brought in front of the Legislature who does not support it. Is it merely a loss of time applying for the grant or is there a fiscal penalty.

Commissioner Pena stated that there is a process that the County needs to be careful of.

Deputy County Executive Walker stated that there is no financial exposure if the grant is not “accepted” by the County. Once the grant is “accepted” all of the obligations to complete the project are attached to it. He stated that the \$730,000 is not grant money. This is money that the County needs to spend to catch up. He stated it will avail us from having to refund \$1.6 million dollars already spent and the \$12 million to complete the work.

Commissioner Pena stated to address Legislator Castellano’s question, in order to properly estimate a grant while in the application phase, there may need to be some engineering investigation required. He stated that may cost some money. He stated that would be dollars lost, if the Legislature will not approve a grant.

Legislator Othmer made a motion to approve a Bond in the amount of \$730,000 to revitalize three Road Projects: Peekskill Hollow Road, Sodom Road, Drewville & Stoneleigh Road; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Chair Albano stated that he would like to have the consideration to amending the Appropriations Law discussed at the Audit & Administration Meeting.

6e.) Projected Financials for the Snake Hill Road Summer Project

6e.) Commissioner Pena stated that they are working on the FEMA process to apply for reimbursement to assist in offsetting the cost of damage incurred during Hurricane Irene. The FEMA process is very arduous. You must stay on top of it or the funding will be lost. He stated to have someone to track the entire process is critical. He stated in this case it was Jeanette Saccavino in the Highway & Facilities Department, who did a terrific job with this application process. Through her efforts the County is looking to receive in the range of \$730,256. He stated he used the phrase “range of” because that is what was agreed to as an estimate. He stated that FEMA will reimburse the County for the entire design and construction cost, should it go over the estimate. That work will include Culvert 1 & 2 as well as other elements along Snake Hill Road. He stated that there is a retaining wall that needs to be repaired. It is not FEMA reimbursable. He stated that currently there is \$400,000 approved in the County’s Capital Projects Account that could be put towards the work that is not covered by FEMA. He stated that the elements discovered along Snake Hill Road will have to be addressed at sometime. He continued discussion on how he will manage the traffic while doing the work that will be done on the road. He stated that there will need to be another bonding issue considered to get all of the work done on Snake Hill Road. He stated that he just wanted to give a heads up on that. At this time he does not have any backup. He conducted some detailed conversation on the different options that are being looked at to address plans.

County Executive Odell requested that Legislator Scuccimarra share this information with the Highway Superintendent of Philipstown Roger Chirico.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that they have had several meetings with Commissioner Pena and the representatives from the Town, she stated that she will make sure that Mr. Chirico has the most recent information.

Commissioner Pena reviewed information on several options that they researched as far as closing the road to do the construction.

Legislator Scuccimarra requested an update on Manitou Station Road in Philipstown. Commissioner Pena provided an update on the water issue in that area. He explained and shared his findings. He stated that it is a vulnerable area on the river's edge. He stated that his recommendation would be to raise the road and install a culvert. He stated that is not a County Road, it is a Town Road. He stated that the County does own land on one side of the roadway.

Deputy County Executive Walker stated that he met with the Chief of Staff from Congressman Maloney's Office referencing this matter. He also met with Philipstown Highway Supervisor Chirico on the same matter. He stated that information was sent to the Congressman, who is working to try to secure some funding out of the \$22 billion that was allocated to the State. He stated that a portion of the \$22 billion is being allocated to Counties.

County Executive Odell stated that Congressman Maloney was recently in her office. She stated they discussed concerns of Putnam County.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned if this specific project was mentioned.

County Executive Odell stated that it was.

Deputy County Executive Walker stated that they didn't have correspondence to pass along to him at that time. However since then, as stated earlier, information has been given to his Chief of Staff.

7. Other Business

7a.) Approval/Authorizing the Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of The Federal-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, and Appropriations

7b.) Approval/Authorizing the Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal –Aid Project, and Appropriating Funds

Commissioner Pena spoke to agenda item **7a.** That is money coming into the County. The funding is to cover damage caused by a storm back on February 24 - 26 of 2010. The County is receiving \$104,266 of funding. In agenda item **7b.** that is funding in the amount of \$77,758 to be reimbursed to Putnam County to cover debris removal from Hurricane Irene that came through Putnam County on August 26, 2011.

Legislator Othmer made a motion to approve Agenda Items #7a & #7b; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Item #7) Other Business:

7c) Update on Drainage Problem in the 40 Gleneida Avenue Parking Lot

Commissioner Pena stated through some investigative work it was discovered that there was a water main break that occurred when the BP Gas Station installed their new Gas Tanks. They are currently working to repair it.

7d) Signs/Directing Motorist to the Entrance for the County Parking Lot

Chair Albano stated that now that the entrance off of Route 52 has been closed, people have approached him requesting to have signs posted directing motorists to where the entry is to the parking lot.

County Executive Odell stated that her office has already addressed that. The signs should be posted very soon.

7e) Create Openings In the Curbs Along Lake Gleneida

Chair Albano asked if Commissioner Pena would meet him to see where he believes openings of the curbs along Lake Gleneida need to be created to avoid a dam affect, which currently occurs when it rains. He stated at the intersection of Route 6 and Route 52 there was item 4 put down; it has been washed away.

Commissioner Pena stated that he agrees and he will meet with him.

7d) Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant/Time Keeping System

Katherine Blaustein, Highways & Facilities Consultant stated that she would like to recommend that the County purchase a Time Keeping System that would track the time spent on capital projects, that could be submitted for reimbursement.

Commissioner Pena stated they are compiling information on this request and will bring it forward once they have it perfected.

Item #8) Adjournment

There being no further business, at 10:10P.M., Legislator Othmer made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature- Diane E. Trabulsy