

**Physical Services Committee Meeting
Held in Room #318
Putnam County Office Building
Members: Chairman Albano & Legislators Nacerino and Scuccimarra**

Thursday

June 12, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Albano who requested that Legislator Oliverio lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Albano and Legislators Nacerino and Scuccimarra were present.

Item #3) Approval/Physical Services Meeting Minutes/April 22 & May 15, 2014

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item #4) Approval/ Proposed Resolution/Opposing Clean Water Act Regulation Proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency & Army Corps of Engineers/Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District

Chair Albano made a motion to approve the Resolution/ Opposing Clean Water Act Regulation Proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency & Army Corps of Engineers/Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #5) Approval/Bonds – Putnam Bikeway II Phase B

Chair Albano made a motion to approve the Bonds- Putnam Bikeway II Phase B; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Item #6) Approval/Budgetary Amendment (14A044)/Putnam Bikeway II Phase B

Chair Albano stated that this Budgetary Amendment goes with the previous agenda item – “Bonds-Putnam Bikeway II Phase B”.

Legislator Scuccimarra made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment (14A044) Putnam Bikeway II Phase B; Seconded by Legislature Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #7) Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (14A035)/To Closeout Completed Capital Projects & Adjust For Ongoing Capital Projects to Reflect Actual Costs/Commissioner Carlin

Chair Albano questioned Commissioner Carlin, if this was a result of some left over funding.

Commissioner Carlin stated that by law the left over funding, from the Carmel Sidewalk Project, must go into the Debt Service Fund.

Chair Albano made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment (14A035)/To Closeout Completed Capital Projects & Adjust For Ongoing Capital Projects to Reflect Actual Costs/Commissioner Carlin; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Item #8) Correspondence:

**8a.) Discussion/Memorandum From: Chair Albano To: County Executive Odell
Dated: June 4, 2014 Re: Physical Services Committee Meeting June 12,
2014/Putnam County Golf Course cc: Commissioners Carlin, Pena &
General Mgr. McCall**

Chair Albano stated that Commissioner(s) Carlin, Pena and General Manager Mike McCall are present to address agenda item #8a.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she sent a memo on June 4th, addressing a political advertisement which listed some debt associated with the Putnam County Golf Course. She stated that she was very disconcerted with that ad. She stated that she requested, in her June 4th memo, that Commissioner(s) Carlin, Pena and General Manager Mike McCall attend tonight's meeting to provide a true and accurate accounting of the numbers associated with the Putnam County Golf Course.

Commissioner Pena stated that per the request they did review the advertisement that was published in the newspaper and went over the numbers. He stated January 22, 2014 (Physical Services Meeting) there was a report presented on the amounts invested into the golf course. He stated that the Chief Financial Officer (Commissioner Carlin) will speak to them, he will be able to answer any specific questions relating activities at the golf course and General Manager McCall is here to report the good news about the golf course.

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

Commissioner Carlin stated that he would address the advertisement line by line. He stated he will provide the actual amounts, as reflected in the County's Financial System for the Putnam County Golf Course. The Revenue for 2013 is \$1,727,517 (*amount in ad: \$1,272,170*). The 2013 Operating Expenses amount is correct in the ad; \$1,700,861. There was a small operating gain of \$26,656 (*amount in ad: Loss \$428,691*). He stated the Bonding Debt Service Payment for 2013 amount is correct in the ad: \$405,660.

Legislator LoBue requested to speak to this matter.

Chair Albano stated that he would like to allow Commissioner Carlin to complete his presentation and then go to the Legislators and Audience for questions/comments.

Commissioner Carlin stated that amount listed under the title "Bonding" in the ad is one of the bonds outstanding that represents the County's repayment to the Department of Environmental

Protection (DEP). He stated that originally when the County purchased the Course; they purchased the course and the airport property and the County had to repay the money for the course.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he would like to ask a question pertaining specifically to the bonding. He questioned if the former leasers of the golf course, RDC, were they obligated to pay the debt service amount.

Commissioner Carlin stated that they were not obligated to pay it. He stated that they were obligated to pay the County an amount equal to the average interest on the debt service. They were never directly paying the debt service.

Legislator Oliverio questioned what would the amount be of the interest.

Commissioner Carlin stated that it averaged approximately \$248,000.

Legislator Oliverio stated that is no longer part of the deal in the new lease.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct. He stated after 2008 when the world went upside down, financially, the County recognized that in the next agreement and the Request For Proposal bared it out, nobody would guarantee the County that amount.

Legislator Nacerino questioned what year does this bond go back to.

Commissioner Carlin stated 2007. He stated that it actually goes back to the original purchase back in 2003 He stated that the important fact that he would like to point out about the debt payment is that the \$405,660 is due from now until 2031 whether the County runs a golf course and banquet facility or not. He stated the doors could be locked tomorrow; however the obligation to pay the Bond back remains.

Legislator Scuccimarra requested for clarification that since 2003 the County has been paying the debt payment amount of \$405,660 each year.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct. He stated that he puts this in that context because when MaryEllen Odell came into the position of the Putnam County Executive she and her Deputy County Executive, Bruce Walker, had a decision to make. They were aware of the debt payment obligation. He stated they looked at the option of closing the facility or trying to create a state of the art facility that would give the recreational opportunities that people want. He stated that they went with the decision to improve the course.

Legislator Nacerino stated that the County is maximizing its resources.

Commissioner Carlin stated exactly; the County is optimizing its assets and maximizing its resources.

Commissioner Pena stated that there was a specific concern. He stated that the Administration recognized that there was a choice to be made, while recognizing the debt on the Bond that was due: let the course continue to go into deterioration as it was doing or try to bring it into something that the County could use as a recreational resource and also part of the golf course property is being utilized by the Mahopac Sports Association. He stated that both of those recreational activities were recognized as important to the people. He stated that the “do nothing decision” was reviewed and discussed with the Legislature in 2012. He stated that the Legislature agreed at that time that the “do nothing” option was not what the County wanted.

Commissioner Carlin stated that even if the facility were to be shut down, it would not be able to be sold. He explained that the DEP has the Right of Refusal for one (1) dollar.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she believes that she can speak for her colleagues on this Physical Services Committee when she says that they wholeheartedly support this endeavor for the logical reasons that have been stated this evening. She stated that basically you need to invest in something in order to get something out of it.

Commissioner Carlin stated that he will continue with the Investments Costs. He stated that in the ad this portion is labeled “Costs”. He stated the 2013 Golf Course Renovations for \$233,000 is correct. He stated that the debt service starts in 2014. He stated that out of the \$233,000 the County has spent \$97,115.00 to date, expense encumbered. He stated next out of the \$295,000 – Lawn Mowing Equipment Taken from County Sales Tax Surplus – 2013.

Commissioner Pena stated that the remainder of the Golf Course Renovations is to be spent on the infrastructure, which has been discussed.

Commissioner Carlin stated the \$295,000 amount is correct. He stated that it is for the Lawn Mowing Equipment. He stated that the funding was taken from the 2013 Sales Tax Surplus. He stated that was a collective decision between the Administration and the Legislature (Board). He stated of the \$295,000, \$269,000 has been spent. He stated that the remainder of the funding will be spent in 2014. He stated that the \$300,000 County Labor – 2013 is correct. He stated that most of it is imbedded cost. He explained that what is meant by imbedded cost is that it is mostly the County’s Parks and Maintenance Department employees. He stated that if they are not working at the golf course they will be working somewhere else. He stated that those are budgeted costs regardless of where the work is done in the County.

Legislator Nacerino stated that ultimately it is actually a cost savings, because the County is utilizing its own employees and not outsourcing the work.

Commissioner Pena stated that the only additional cost used in labor was \$31,000 that was used in Overtime and some Temporary Employee support.

Commissioner Carlin stated that the Overtime /Temporary Employee support was addressed in the State of the County address presented by the County Executive. It was to maximize the Alternatives To Incarceration (ATI) program.

Commissioner Pena stated that when individuals who are part of the ATI program are working, there needs to be one (1) or two (2) County Employees to supervise. He stated this has been discussed.

Chair Albano stated that he supports the utilization of the ATI participants, it is a win-win for both sides.

Commissioner Carlin stated the \$91,000 Parking Lot Lighting -2013 and \$2,600 Parking Lot Line Striping -2013; amounts listed in the ad relate to the parking lot at the golf course. However he stated that the parking lot is not only a parking lot it is a Water Filtration Project, which is helping the County meet its mandated bubble compliance. He stated \$1.2 million dollars has been contributed to the project from the East Of Hudson Corporation. He stated the \$91,000 to light the parking lot and \$2,600 to Line Stripe the lot has been deemed a priority from a Risk Management and Safety perspective. He concluded by stating that the \$91,000 and the \$2,600 are part of the \$233,000. He stated that \$97,500 Golf Course Lawsuit- 2013 is the amount the County has spent defending itself.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that she would like to clarify that number. The \$97,500 is the 2013 amount. She stated that the actual amount spent in 2013 was \$24,049.

Commissioner Carlin stated the total of \$97,500 may be the total of 2012 and 2013. He stated that \$10,000 was granted to the County paid by RDC. He stated that the \$10,000 was received in 2014. He stated that the \$9,000 Signage is correct. He stated that there is a contract between Applied Golf and Bikepath Country. He stated that the County buys the marble signs that are in front of every tee box.

General Manager McCall stated that the signs were already at the course; they are specific to the course itself. He stated that they liked the signs so they bought them. He stated that Applied Golf, reviewed the original Sign proposal. They made some changes to the agreement. He stated that they agreed to buy the signs. However they wanted any money made on the signs to recoup the cost. He stated Applied Golf bought the signs for \$9,000; Applied Golf will receive the first \$9,000 back. He stated that to date they have received \$4,100. He stated they expect to make the full \$9,000 back and after that it is a 50/50 split with Bikepath Country. He stated that is the agreement for the following year as well (*there is a 2 year contract agreement in place*).

Commissioner Carlin stated that they anticipate being in the positive by the end of 2014. He stated that the portion of the ad entitled Adopted Proposed Capital Projects 2014 Budget the amount listed \$250,000, Shed Storage-Gold Equipment is correct. He stated that the \$40,000, Restrooms Facilities is not correct. The correct amount is \$35,700. He stated that the \$150,000, Equipment Year 2-Golf is correct. He stated every capital projects list is a wish list. He stated that the Administration and the Legislature need to decide how much the County will want to bond and what the priorities are around the County. He stated at this time nothing has been spent and is not even sure if there will be anything moved forward this year.

General Manager McCall stated that he would like to point out that he stated in February 2014 that he did not see the need for spending the \$150,000 at this time. He stated that he also mentioned previously that last year there was a fairway mower that was needed which was paid for out of the \$295,000. He stated that they would like to have an equipment replacement plan in place for down the road so there are no surprises.

Legislator Oliverio questioned if the Parking Lot Lighting and Parking Lot Line Striping funding, which totals approximately \$94,000, could be moved to the Golf Course Renovations; how is the roof going to be paid for.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that they would have to come back to the Legislature for approval if additional funding is required.

Legislator Oliverio stated that the matter of "County Labor" is arguable in his opinion. He stated that if we use our own workers to do a specific task then they are not eligible to do other tasks. He stated that Putnam County is responsible for a huge amount of County roadways. He stated when you use County workers to do a job, other than what they were hired to do, we need to remain cognizant.

Chair Albano stated that the County just came off of a terrible winter. He stated that he has heard nothing but praise on how the roads were maintained throughout the winter.

Legislator Oliverio stated in reference to the revenue his own calculations totaled approximately, \$1,300,000.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that in the County's financial system it shows \$1,727,517. He stated possibly maybe Legislator Oliverio received his calculations before the end of the year postings.

Legislator LoBue stated that she would like to begin by stating that this is unprecedented. She stated that the ad being referred to was her ad in the newspaper, it was her interpretation of the numbers and the numbers speak for themselves. She stated that she received the numbers from the County's Auditing Department. She questioned Commissioner Carlin asking why it is so difficult for her to get information from his department. She stated that she was requesting information on the 2013 debt service for almost six (6) months. She stated that she has all of the documentation that is posted online. The revenue is \$1.7 million and that is from the Finance Department's print out and the expenses.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that there is some confusion on the interpretation of the \$1.7 million dollar revenue. He stated that the payment to the catering company is part of the 1.7 million dollar total that is not taken out. He stated that the \$1.7 million includes the \$455,000 paid to Homestyles Catering.

Legislator LoBue reviewed the numbers that she had listed in her ad. She stated with the exception of the 2013 Revenue number all of her numbers are accurate.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that is what he said.

Legislator LoBue stated that this is unprecedented. She stated that Commissioner(s) Carlin, Pena and General Manager McCall are present at this meeting to address her ad.

Chair Albano stated basically some of what was published in the ad was factually incorrect. He stated the first number in the ad was incorrect; there was approximately \$500,000 moved from one line to another that is misleading. He stated also in reference to the Golf Equipment, which depreciates over the years, the cost is spread over years; it is not taken out all at once.

Legislator LoBue stated she would not debate this. She stated this discussion is regarding her ad, which is her interpretation of the numbers. She stated Chair Albano is giving his interpretation of the information.

Chair Albano stated that the reason this matter is being discussed is because it may be damaging the efforts of something that is working very well.

Legislator LoBue stated that is his interpretation. She stated that she has voted against all of the spending to go on record.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she was concerned about this matter. She stated that she was not questioning the accuracy or inaccuracy. She stated that the ad was a political ad that gives the reflection on this Legislature that perhaps we are spending money recklessly or not monitoring it at all. She stated, first she would like to clarify, she will be speaking on her own behalf, she is very supportive of the golf course endeavor. She stated that she believes good decisions have been made in moving forward. She stated that inheriting an asset that was underutilized and not moving in the direction to make a positive investment out of it would be poor business on all of our parts. She stated that when an ad like this is published in the newspapers, it is not only an opinion of a Legislator's, but it give a negative connotation on the Legislature's action. She stated she requested, without the use of the Legislator's name who ran the ad, to have Commissioner(s) Carlin, Pena and General Manger McCall attend tonight's meeting to provide a true and accurate verification of the numbers. She stated that was the sole intention of requesting that this matter be addressed through this committee process.

Legislator LoBue stated that her ad was posted as backup correspondence for this meeting's agenda on the internet.

Legislator Nacerino stated that Legislator LoBue's name is not on the copy of the ad that was posted on the internet.

Legislator LoBue stated that is Legislator Nacerino's interpretation.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she is exercising her right to do her job the best she can, just as Legislator LoBue is.

Chair Albano stated that in the first section of the ad where it states there is a \$428,691 Loss there is actually a \$26,656 profit. He stated if industrial standards are reviewed, this is not happening at other golf courses. The Putnam County Golf Course is being looked at by its competitors. He stated that he has received positive feedback from people. He stated that this property could have been costing the taxpayers a lot of money in the future, however moving in this direction, that will not happen.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he supported the acquisition of the property. He stated that his concern, which he has mentioned previously, government must look at what the priorities are. He stated that there are some people who say that the money should not have been invested in the golf course. He stated that is what he loves about our government and our Country, people have the ability and freedom to express their opinions. He stated for clarification purposes, the catering dollars should have been included in the 2013 Revenue.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that is correct, because it is included in the expense line.

Legislator Oliverio stated he cautions everyone. He stated that he loves the golf course and believes it is a great investment. He stated however he has been approached and asked by some members of the County questioning why there is so much money being spent on the golf course facility. He stated that he believes it is worthy; however he does give credence to the opposing view. He stated that there are people in this County who are working hard, who have lost their homes, or are on the verge of losing their homes and they see what the County is spending on the golf course. He stated that as the County elected officials we must remain conscious of that.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated it is similar to the Tilly Foster Farm property. These County properties were acquired prior to many of the current Legislators arrival on the board. She stated that there needs to be financial investments made or otherwise as Commissioner Carlin stated, we will lock the doors on the properties and the taxpayers will still be paying. She stated that when the statement is said "Putnam County Golf Course – Good investment or Bad?" there is a connotation there that we are doing something that we are not supposed to do. She stated that we are all working for the same goal; to make these properties profitable so they can work to reduce the taxes in Putnam County. She stated that we have these properties to deal with and she believes we, the Legislature and the Administration, are doing a good job.

Legislator Nacerino stated that we need to be cognizant to the fact that the investments that we are making now will have a return investment in the future. She stated that when she served on the Town of Patterson Board there were many projects and endeavors that they put forth; many bonds that they took out. She stated that they were all realized to have great potential and to offer a great service to the people of Patterson. She stated that foresight is critical. She stated that with some of the actions taken in the past, she does not see that foresight or vision applied; action was taken without any long term plans. She stated now there are long term plans being

implemented. She stated that she says to the people of the County who may have an opposing opinion we are working to help them in the long term, as taxpayers of this County. She stated if we did nothing, then we would be hurting the residents.

Legislator Oliverio stated that the primary reason for the acquisition of both properties was to prevent development, and he was in favor of it. He stated that there would have been approximately an additional 300 houses on top of what we already have.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that he was part of the actual acquisition process of both properties. He stated that the Town of Carmel strongly communicated that they wanted the County to buy the properties; otherwise it would have put pressure on the school districts etc... He stated that in reference to the purchase of the McGregor Property (now Putnam County Golf Course) the airport property had to be purchased along with it. He stated the owner of the property would not separate the parcels.

Chair Albano stated he believes it is great that we have facilities and activities to offer to the people of Putnam County and visitors to the County.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated the critical part of the golf course is its environmental sensitivity and importance. He stated that nothing says that more, than the fact that the NYDEP has invested \$3.2 million dollars in that property in the Sewer Plant, \$1.2 million in the Parking Lot Filtration System that is underneath the parking lot and the \$6 million to preserve McGregor, which by the way is a couple of sports fields that serves hundreds of Mahopac Sports Association children.

Legislator LoBue questioned in regards to the Signage on the Putnam County Golf Course, who is the contract with.

General Manager McCall stated that it is between Applied Golf and Bikepath Country.

Legislator LoBue questioned if there was ad space sold; is that where the \$4,100 of revenue came from.

General Manager McCall stated yes ad space on the bottom of the signs was sold.

Legislator LoBue questioned where does that revenue go.

General Manager McCall stated that it is handled the same way that the money from the golf course is handled. He stated that it goes through him. He stated that once the \$9,000 is made, he will then generate the 50/50 split with Bikepath Country.

Legislator LoBue questioned what budget line are these funds recorded in.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated it is in the 4640.

General Manager McCall stated that is correct. He stated that it goes through the golf course's Point of Sale (4640).

Legislator LoBue questioned if General Manager McCall and Applied Golf contracts with Putnam County provides them the authority to enter into subcontracts.

General Manager McCall stated that is correct, that was determined by the Putnam County Law Department.

Legislator LoBue stated that the Legislature was not privileged to that matter.

Chair Albano stated that the signs were already there.

Legislator LoBue stated that is not her question. She stated that a new contract was executed after the expiration of the old contract.

General Manager McCall stated there was never a contract in place.

Legislator LoBue stated that her questions are really for Commissioner Carlin and the County Law Department. She questioned how could signs be installed all over the golf course. How was that made possible without a signed contract.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that the signs were installed while RDC was there. She stated that she was never made aware of it.

Legislator LoBue stated that County Attorney Bumgarner was present at the Legislature meetings when there were the discussions about the proposed signage for the County's Bikepath.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that the signs were already at the golf course at that time.

Legislator LoBue stated that is a County Facility; is it being said that no one was watching what was going on. She stated that someone had to have given permission.

Chair Albano stated that we are reviewing millions of dollars tonight, and we are working to get the money back. He stated that he does not want to spend too much time on this.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated the County pays either RDC, in the past, currently the County pays Mike McCall a management fee to manage and run the golf course. He stated the use of Tee Advertising is used by the golf industry; it is a standard operating procedure.

General Manager McCall stated that he believes it is worth noting that there used to be a score board that was an awful vehicle for advertising. He stated that the golf course wasn't getting anything from it. He stated that was one of the first things he did; he had it removed. He stated that the County wasn't benefiting. He stated now there is a plan, which the County will benefit.

He stated that he would like to present some of the good news from the Putnam County Golf Course. He stated that it was unfortunate that the revenue was misstated. However here we are now; May of 2013 vs May of 2014 total revenue is up \$215,000. He stated there is a 23% increase in the Golf and 105% increase in the Food & Beverage business. He stated that the Operating Expenses are up too. He stated as food and beverage revenue increases so does the expense for Homestyle Catering. He stated that the County Chargebacks are down \$18,000(47%). He stated that last year there were many more instances that required repairs; resulting in the County Chargebacks. He stated that the bottom line, the profit, which is what we all care about, is up \$117,000 (67%) over this time last year. He stated that is very significant. He stated that the bank balance May 2013 was approximately \$104,000. He stated that this year it is \$230,000 as we speak right now.

Chair Albano stated that so far this has not been the greatest weather. He stated that it has been against some tough odds that all of this has been happening.

General Manger McCall stated that is correct, weather wise it was a bad Spring. He stated that the second half of May picked up. He stated that the food and beverage operation is increasing tremendously. He stated the Golf Industry Analysis Company Pellucid, which he has mentioned previously, sent him the statistics, as they usually do, but they also wrote *"Also, I think the turnaround at Putnam is something we might want to write about. The numbers are showing a remarkable story we haven't seen elsewhere. Let me know if your management group would be interested."* He stated that they will be doing an article on the Putnam County Golf Course. He stated that he was at the Dunwoodie Golf Course in Yonkers, NY and they are down 800 rounds and Putnam County Golf Course is up 400 rounds. He stated looking at all of the circumstances, weather being a huge factor, in his opinion, the Putnam County Golf Course business is doing really good.

Chair Albano stated that it is a thriving asset to the County. He stated people are booking events there, and he would like to see that continue.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she believes it is important that the efforts reflect that this is a positive endeavor, and that we are working towards a positive goal and working towards providing a positive service for the people of Putnam County. She stated that there is a profit being realized with increasing capability to do so.

Legislator Oliverio questioned if it is possible to break down the amount of revenue that the County has spent on the various events that have been held at the facility. He stated that he would like to differentiate those dollars. He stated in his opinion when the County is hosting an event at a County Facility, that is tax payers' dollars covering the cost. He stated if the profit is based largely on the County Events, then, in his opinion, that is a false profit. He requested the information be sent in time for the June 23rd Audit & Administration Meeting.

General Manger McCall stated that he will do that.

Chief of Staff Patricia Simone stated that whenever a Senior Event is held at the Putnam County Golf facility, the employees from the Office of Senior Resources Department serve the food.

General Manager McCall stated he will get the cost break down Legislator Oliverio requested.

Legislator Tartaro questioned if there is a debt service amount on the original \$11 million spent when the property was initially purchased.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated no. He stated that the City allowed Putnam County to use the East of Hudson funding. They gave a below interest rate at the time; approximately 1.8%. He stated in 2007 the City required that the total amount be paid back. He stated that is when the Bonds were issued that were spoken about tonight.

County Attorney Bumgarner stated that the East of Hudson funds were reimbursed.

Legislator Tartaro questioned besides the annual expenses and revenues, are there any other bonds or debt that the County is paying off. He stated that he would like some clarification on that.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated yes there are. He stated that there is the \$233,000 in renovations in 2013; that debt service is being paid off. He stated that there was a boiler replacement in 2012 which was done through the New York Power Authority, the County is paying that off. He stated there was equipment and original renovations done in 2005 which that bond is being paid off. He stated there are a total of four (4) bonds being paid off.

Legislator Tartaro requested the approximate total of those bonds.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated approximately in 2013 the County paid \$475,000 in debt service.

Legislator Tartaro stated when the finances of the golf course are being reviewed to determine if it is operating at a loss, breaking even or perhaps making a profit; in his opinion the \$475,000 debt is not exactly clear on what the status is of that. He stated that the golf course is not really losing money at this point; if the initial amount is not being considered.

Commissioner of Finance Carlin stated that is correct; but the loss is minimum.

General Manager McCall stated it is true that the entire debt service is not being covered at this point. He stated in February the hope is to provide, from an operating standpoint, approximately \$230,000-\$240,000 that can be applied to whatever debt is chosen to apply it to.

8b.) Discussion/Memorandum From: Legislator Oliverio To: County Executive Odell Dated: May 12, 2014 Re: Additional Weight Restriction Signs – Peekskill Hollow Road cc: Commissioner Pena

Legislator Oliverio stated that Commissioner Pena called him and they spoke about the additional weight restriction signs. He stated that he had requested a sign be placed midway on Peekskill Hollow Road and Tompkins Corners. He stated that Victor Tiship (resident and advocate for the weight restriction on Peekskill Hollow Road) stated that may be a tough area to do a turn around. He stated that he would suggest placing the sign instead on the overpass of the Taconic Parkway.

Commissioner Pena confirmed that the signs being requested would be placed at the south end of Bryant Pond and Barger Street and southbound on Peekskill Hollow Road by Tompkins Corner.

Legislator Oliverio stated the southbound on Peekskill Hollow Road by Tompkins Corner is the one that they believe should be changed to the Taconic Parkway overpass.

Victor Tiship stated that the Taconic Parkway overpass would allow a safer and more suitable area for a turn around. There was further discussion on locations for signage.

Commissioner Pena stated a consideration needs to be given that a sign cannot be posted in an area that would cause a truck to have to turn around on private property.

Chair Albano stated that we will not be able to resolve this right tonight.

Legislator Oliverio stated that Commissioner Pena has agreed to the posting of three (3) signs: Bryant Pond Road, Barger Street and on the Taconic Parkway overpass.

Victor Tiship stated that two (2) months ago he was assured that the signs, were going to be posted at the top of Bryant Pond Road. He stated a sign would be needed at the bottom of that very steep hill as well. He stated that this does not need to be an ongoing discussion. He questioned the weight limit of 12 tons, is it the registered weight of a truck loaded or empty, if the truck is over 12 tons (empty or full) it would be illegal for them to travel on Peekskill Hollow Road, is that accurate?

Commissioner Pena stated that the restriction is no truck of a 12 tons maximum gross or higher can travel on the Peekskill Hollow Road.

Victor Tiship questioned if the State Police have been officially notified of the weight restriction with a clarification of the meaning of the signs being gross registered weight.

Commissioner Pena stated that they have provided public notice as required.

Legislator Oliverio requested that Chair Albano send notification from this committee to the State Police providing that there is a 12 ton maximum gross weight restriction on Peekskill Hollow Road.

Chair Albano confirmed that will be done.

Victor Tiship reiterated the purpose for the weight restriction, safety and preservation of the roadway. He expressed frustration for the lag time on getting the additional signs posted and the notification out in order for the roadway to be patrolled by the authorities.

Commissioner Pena stated that an issue has come up since the last conversation regarding these locations; they were not under the authority of Putnam County. He stated that was the response when the County approached the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). He stated now there is a list of signs that have been agreed to and they can be installed tomorrow, however at this meeting there are different locations being requested that signs be posted.

Victor Tiship questioned what locations were rejected by the NYSDOT; also he did not believe that the NYSDOT needed to be involved in this.

Legislator Oliverio stated that previously there was discussion that the sign be placed on Route 6 at the intersection of Bryant Pond, that cannot be done. He stated that Route 6 is not a County Road, and that was the one that was rejected by the NYSDOT and Westchester County.

Commissioner Pena reviewed, for clarity, the request for sign placement coming out of this meeting: three (3) signs: Bryant Pond Road, Barger Street and on the Taconic Parkway overpass. He stated that he is going to check on the posting of the sign on the Taconic Parkway overpass.

Legislator Oliverio stated that is a County Road, he does not believe approval would be needed.

Victor Tiship questioned if there is going to be a sign at the bottom of Bryant Pond Road.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he does not agree that there needs to be a sign at the bottom of that roadway, when there will be one posted at the top. He stated he does not want to post too many signs.

Victor Tiship quoted from the Manual of Uniformed Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) verbiage standard that could be used to support the placement of a sign at the top and bottom of Bryant Pond Road.

Legislator Oliverio stated he does not want to see a sign posted at the bottom, there is nowhere for a truck to turn around down there.

Chair Albano stated there have been three (3) signs agreed to tonight. If there is need after the signs have been posted for discussion of additional signs, he requested that the request be sent to the Legislature and it will be addressed. He stated that he will send a letter to the State Troopers barrack and make sure that the Sheriff's Department is enforcing the weight restriction.

**8c.) Update/Memorandum From: Chair Albano To: County Executive Odell
Dated: June 6, 2014 Re: Update/Regarding Lake Gleneida Vegetation
Management Plan cc: Commissioner Pena**

Chair Albano stated that he is happy to report that some trimming of the lakeshore has been done. He stated that he would like to have the boat owners notified of the next phase on the lake. He questioned when Commissioner Pena anticipated working on the 200 foot area of the lakeshore.

Commissioner Pena stated that they may have passed the window of installation for new plantings. He stated that they did receive a recommendation from Cornell Cooperative on appropriate plantings, which was sent to the DEP for their review and approval. He stated that he and Deputy Highway Commissioner Tully are working on a letter of preliminary notification to the boat owners regarding the future installation of the boat stanches.

Chair Albano stated that he has received a lot of positive feedback on the work that has been done on the lakefront. He stated that people are noticing it and appreciating it.

Item #9) Other Business

Chair Albano state that there is a time restriction this evening as there is the 200th Year Celebration of the Historic Courthouse at 7:00p.m. tonight.

Ann Fanizzi (resident) stated that in regards to process, she believes this exercise was very beneficial to her. She stated that the residents will appreciate it as well. She stated that the ad political or not, did outline the expenses and she believes that the public should be informed of the various expenses that the County is incurring. She stated that is transparency. She stated that she would like to thank Legislator Tartaro for bringing up the matter of the debt from the past bond used to purchase the golf course property. She questioned how that debt (\$475,000) is recorded. She stated it should be reflected when discussing the finances of the golf course. She questioned what is the fiscal year for the golf course.

General Manger McCall stated the fiscal year for the golf course is January to January.

Ann Fanizzi (resident) questioned when the financials will be presented.

General Manger McCall stated that he presents monthly reports to the Legislature and the Administration. He stated that there was not a lot to report for January, February and March. He stated that he will come in July or August to present the mid-year financials.

Arthur Singer (resident) requested clarification if Mr. McCall is a County Employee.

General Manger McCall stated no he is not.

Arthur Singer (resident) questioned who gets charged for the work his does.

General Manger McCall stated that he has a contract with the County of Putnam and it is charged to the expense line.

Arthur Singer (resident) questioned when Mr. McCall is called away from the golf course to work elsewhere in the County, such as assisting with the flooding that occurred at the new Courthouse, how does that gets charged.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that the contract that he has with the County is a monthly fee for the services he provides. He stated for the purposes of the flooding in the new Courthouse, it took place in January-February, where there is a bit of down time for golf operations. He stated that they recognized that Mr. McCall did come into that situation and assisted tremendously with that operation. He stated that they are seeking reimbursement for his time from the insurance company. He explained that a full-time County Employees time would not be reimbursable by the insurance company, so it actually worked out, to a certain extent, to the County's advantage.

Arthur Singer (resident) stated that he had submitted a FOIL to receive a copy of the lease between the County and the County Employee who is a Veterinarian Technician. He presented some questions in reference to the size of the apartment on the property of the Tilly Foster Farm, whether the utilities would be paid for, would the tenant/employee be allowed to conduct the dog training business, they currently have, and would the tenant/employee be allowed to use the property to conduct any business.

Chair Albano stated that he did not have the answer to those questions off the top of his head.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that Mr. Singer could contact him and he would provide him with the answers to his questions.

Legislator LoBue stated that she had some questions pertaining to the upcoming events July 3, 4, 5 & 6th that will be held at the Tilly Foster Farm. She questioned what the fee will be to attend or park, also who would be doing the charging and the receiving of the income. She stated that she is aware that Homestyle catering has offered to host the event. She stated she would like to know the cost for the Sheriff's Departments services for the July 3, 4,5 & 6th events.

Chair Albano stated that he will request to have the information at the June Audit & Administration Meeting.

Leigsator Oliverio stated that he is concerned about parking. He questioned where people will park for the event.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that they will have parking in the lower level field.

Chair Albano stated that the public wants to see things happening at the farm. He stated that is the goal of hosting the event. He stated that there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes and he stated that they would welcome more volunteers and help.

Legislator LoBue stated that she would like to make sure that her request is clear, she would like a recording of the cost to host this event. She questioned if we could have it for the June 23rd Audit & Administration meeting. She stated in addition, she would like a copy of any paper work associated with the event, such as contracts.

Ann Fanizzi stated that she is puzzled that there is a whole four (4) day program being planned and no one has answers to these questions. She stated she believes this plan should have been put forward to this committee. She stated she cannot understand the lack of transparency and openness of the details. She stated the people who are responsible for overseeing should have the details, regardless of the event plans. She stated the information should be coming from the Executive Branch to the Legislative Branch of government. She stated as a result of the lack of facts, there are rumors all over the County.

Chair Albano stated that he personally has faith in the people who are putting this event together. He stated all of the information will be presented to the public. He stated that he admits this is an ambitious venture. He stated that the County wants to bring the Farm back on-line and it seemed perfect to coordinate an event at the Farm with the fireworks event.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he has said this many times before, there is no communication with the Legislature on these events. He stated that Deputy County Executive Walker made a presentation to this committee last month, and there was mention that there was going to be a fair at the Farm. He stated that was the first that he had heard of it.

Chair Albano questioned if anyone sent correspondence to Deputy County Executive Walker requesting more details on the event.

Legislator Oliverio questioned at what point did it become necessary for the Legislative Branch of Government to have to request that the Executive Branch of Government to provide information. He stated that we are duly elected.

Chair Albano stated obviously there is information and we will have it.

Legislator Oliverio stated but the Legislature does not have the information; and the Legislature should have it. He stated do the Legislators need to wait for the event to get the information.

Chair Albano stated that the plans are not finalized. He stated it was a concept, it was thought it would be a good idea in light of the fireworks event. He stated that there was a lot of work done on the Farm and there is still fine tuning to be done. He stated that he has not seen anyone write a letter stating that it is a bad idea. He stated the information will be provided, and he has faith in the people he is dealing with.

Arthur Singer (resident) stated he believes there is potential for a lot of damage from putting all of the cars on the grass.

Chair Albano stated that he has attended the Rhineback Fair yearly for many years. He stated that the amount of cars there far outweigh the amount of cars we will have.

Ann Fanizzi (resident) stated that with all due respect, it is not only about you not having a problem, this entire plan should be reviewed and questioned, resulting in the best plan possible.

Chair Albano stated then the option is the County could do nothing.

Legislator Oliverio stated that is not what he is stating. He stated that the Legislature needs to be involved.

Legislator LoBue stated that she concurs with her colleagues and the audience, we were told last month by Deputy County Executive Walker that there was going to be some kind of event held at the farm. She stated that she at that time questioned, who is paying for this, where is the plan and the projected cost. She stated that he responded stating that it was going to be donated by the caterers. He stated that the information would be forthcoming. She stated at the Business Expo at Putnam Hospital there was an announcement made about an upcoming event at the Farm to be held July 3, 4, 5 & 6th. She stated that she was unaware of that, she thought it was going to be a one day event. She stated then people were approaching her asking details on what the cost would be to the attendees of the event. She stated that she had to say, she unfortunately had no details in reference to the event. She stated that is unacceptable.

Chair Albano stated that answers will be provided this week, he is glad this conversation came up. He stated that he would encourage anyone who would like to volunteer and help to please call.

Legislator Tartaro stated that he would request that Chairman Albano send correspondence requesting that the financial impact of the event be provided for review at the June 23rd Audit & Administration Committee meeting. He stated that he is sure that Dr. Beals is in the loop with the sanitation plan for the event.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that the County's Emergency Services is involved in the plans.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she believes tonight's point is well taken. She stated that the Legislature should know this information. She stated that she does have faith that the plan is in

place, but everyone is right, the Legislature should know what the plan is and what the anticipated expenses are associated with this event. She stated in reference to Legislator Oliverio's inquiry of the County events held at the Putnam County Golf Course, she stated that the recent Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Luncheon event that was held there was a fiscally responsible move. She stated that there were 400 attendees. She stated if they had held it at another venue the overall expense would be much more.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he is not referring to the event for the RSVP, which recognizes our Seniors.

Legislator Nacerino stated that the County events held at the golf course venue, if held at another venue would ultimately cost more.

Legislator Oliverio stated we never had this venue before. He stated in the past the events were held at Veterans' Park, as an example.

Legislator Tartaro stated that he looked into this as well. He stated he was told that there was a \$7.50 charge per meal and the employees of the Office for Seniors Resources worked at the event. He stated after receiving the information from Director Sheehy his opinion was that the County would not be able to do better than that price.

Legislator Nacerino stated in her opinion she believes that these events being held at the Putnam County Golf Course are being done in the most cost effective way. She stated she wanted to thank Ms. Fanizzi for her comments and she agrees that this was a good exercise, and she supports open and transparency in every capacity and everyway. She stated that she believes that there has been open and transparent actions taken in regards to the Putnam County Golf Course project. She stated that General Manager McCall and Commissioner Pena have come frequently to provide updates. She stated that in her opinion what was accomplished here tonight is not only to look at what is posted in a political ad, but to give the rationale and verification of why the majority of the Legislators have voted "yes".

Item #10)Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:00P.M., Chair Albano made a motion to adjourn;
Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

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