

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD IN ROOM #318  
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**Tuesday**

**October 20, 2015**

**6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 P.M. by Chairman Albano who requested Legislator Wright lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Scuccimarra, Gouldman, Addonizio, Nacerino, Gross, Castellano, LoBue, Wright and Chairman Albano were present. Also present was Legislative Counsel Van Ross.

Chairman Albano stated that they would now review the proposed changes submitted by each Committee.

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
(Chairman Albano, Legislators Castellano & Wright)**

**Item #1 – Highways & Facilities – Tilly Foster Farm - Electric.**

Chairman Albano moved the following; seconded by Legislator LoBue.

**Highway Department**

FROM:	TO:
Tilly Foster Farm – Electric 10084000 54631	12,000                    10,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: (2,000)

Adjust fringes and revenue accordingly.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Item #2 – Highways & Facilities – Maintenance Roads & Bridges.**

Chairman Albano moved the following; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.

**Highway Department**

Maintenance Roads & Bridges  
Miscellaneous Supplies

10511000 54300	5,000	4,000
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A DIFFERENCE OF: (1,000)

Adjust fringes and revenue accordingly.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
(Chairman Gross, Legislators Gouldman & Nacerino)

**Item #3 – Sheriff's Department – Child Passenger Safety Program.**

Chairman Albano moved the following; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.

**Sheriff's Department**

**Child Passenger Safety Program**

**Revenue**

17311002 443892	6,500	3,500
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**Miscellaneous**

17311002 54989	(6,500)	(3,500)
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**A NET DIFFERENCE OF: \$0**

Adjust fringes and revenue accordingly.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AUDIT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**  
(Chairman Castellano, Legislators Gross & Nacerino)

**Item #4 – Approval/OTB/Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT).** Chairman Albano recognized Legislator Castellano, Chairman of the Audit & Administration Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Gross and Nacerino, Legislator Castellano moved the following; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.

Legislator Castellano stated that OTB is not producing as much revenue has they have in the past; therefore an adjustment needs to be made to the PILOT program.

**APPROVAL/OTB /PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOT)**

**WHEREAS,** Resolution #225 of 2002 authorizes that beginning January 1, 2003 and continuing thereafter, any municipal corporation (Town/Village/School District) that contains a parcel that has been removed from the tax rolls as an OTB Facility receive an annual payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT); and

WHEREAS, Resolution #288 of 2011 set all future PILOT payments to be paid as follows: Brewster Central School District \$38,429.86; Town of Southeast \$3,505.24 and Putnam County \$4,081.32; and

WHEREAS, the revenues received from OTB have decreased drastically over the years from over \$840,000 in 2002 to \$112,761.03 in 2014 requiring a readjustment of the PILOT program; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that commencing January 1, 2016 the PILOT payment made to the Town of Southeast be 3% 1% of the prior 12 month's calendar year's receipts from the OTB Corporation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that commencing January 1, 2016 the PILOT payment to the Brewster Central School District in September of each year be 10% of the prior 12 month's calendar year's receipts from the OTB Corporation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution supersedes the PILOT payments made under Resolution 288 of 2011.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Item #5 – Parks & Recreation – Maintenance & Repairs – Subcontingency.

Chairman Albano moved the following; seconded by Legislator LoBue.

Parks & Recreation

	FROM:	TO:
Maintenance & Repairs 10711000 54710	15,000	0
Subcontingency 10199000 54985	0	15,000

A DIFFERENCE OF: 0

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item #6 – Legislator Raises.

Legislator Nacerino stated that Chairman Albano included a 1% salary increase in the Legislature's budget. She stated that this is a modest increase and the funds were taken from another line within the Legislature's budget; therefore there was no fiscal impact. She stated that the Legislature has not received an increase in 10 years and the 1% increase was under the threshold of any other elected official or management's increase throughout the County.

Chairman Albano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional material; seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

**Item #7 – Legislator Nacerino’s Proposal – Retiree Health Insurance.**

Legislator Nacerino stated that at the Personnel Budget Committee meeting of October 14, 2015, the Legislature heard many concerns from retirees regarding the proposed increases to the Retirement Contributions. She stated that these decisions are not always easy; however as elected officials, she believed that sound decisions must be based on the overall good for the people of Putnam County. She stated that she wished Putnam County was in a better financial position, however the reality is that the rising costs in health insurance dictates that we cannot sustain this path. She stated that costs have doubled in the last eight (8) years and retirees are retiring earlier and living longer. She stated that the County cannot continue to ask the taxpayers to pay 90% or more of the differential. She explained that in reviewing the County Executive’s proposal, she believed that the bands (Section D(1)(a)) were a little ambitious. She explained that in an effort to reduce the impact somewhat, she has submitted a revised schedule to Section D(1)(a). She then read the proposed revised contribution scheduled; the annual amounts of pension benefit and the percentage amount of premium payable by the retiree.

Legislator LoBue stated that she wanted to note for the record that during the Personnel Budget Committee meeting, Legislator Addonizio suggested the modification of the bands, having the higher percentage to a higher pension amount. She stated that she believes in process and believed that the process was not followed when union members were not brought to the table and included in the discussion. She stated that during the Personnel meeting it was made very clear to the Legislature that the union wanted to be included in these discussions. She believed that spending has gotten out of control. She stated that the County Executive took approximately \$8 million from the reserves to balance the budget. She believed that now for \$750,000 to takeaway something that was promised to retirees was not fair. She stated that she does not support this proposal.

Legislator Nacerino stated Legislator LoBue’s point is well taken, however, she would have to disagree after the Legislature received the letter that was documented by Deputy County Executive Walker stating that the unions were engaged and were apprised of the discussions that were ensuing. She stated that from the onset she informed Commissioner Carlin that the bands needed to be refigured which resulted in her proposal this evening. She believed that when the Legislature evaluates this issue it is important to realize it is not sustainable to continue on this path.

Legislator LoBue stated that in referring to the correspondence received from Deputy County Executive Walker, when you look at the timeline, it seems that a few months ago there was communication between the union and the Administration. She explained that there was no follow up communication or notification to the union that this proposal would be included in the budget. She stated that the Legislature was not aware that this

was going to be made part of the budget and \$750,000 would be booked as revenue. She stated that in order for the Legislature to not vote in favor of this proposal, we would need to find the \$750,000 in the budget. She believed the Legislature was placed in a “no win situation” when the County Executive has already taken approximately \$8 million from the reserves to balance the budget. She stated she believes it was disrespectful to this Legislature to not be included in these discussions several months ago with all the stakeholders involved. She stated that this change could be detrimental to a retiree’s lifestyle that could be living on a low pension income. She believed in open and transparent government, and she believed this proposal was conducted in an unfair and disingenuous manner. She believed this proposal should have been made public and vetted thoroughly.

Legislator Nacerino believed that when the Legislature makes decisions, they are made for the overall good of the people. She stated that if 1/4 of the population is senior citizens then we need to take into account that there are others who are also trying to manage on fixed incomes. She stated that this issue presents a dilemma and is not a pleasant decision that needs to be made. However, she believes the Legislature needs to look at how it will impact the residents of the whole County. She believed that this was the third time this issue has been presented before a Legislative body. Although, in the past we may have shied away from this sensitive issue, she believed we were not elected to shy away from what needs to be done. She stated that she did not see any other way to defuse the escalating costs then to do a modest increase for the retirees.

Legislator Wright stated that he would not support this proposal for several reasons. He believed this was an attempt to abuse the good will of the Legislature. He believed this was a comprehensive revision of employee’s rights and benefits which was shoved down our throats in the context of a several week budget cycle. He stated that for all those who would say this issue has been kicking around for a long time, then shame on those who did not bring it to the light of day under circumstances when it could receive the proper introspection and deliberation, from not only this Legislative body, but every affected retiree and employee. He stated that government that pays for its bills of tomorrow on the backs of the citizens and employees of yesterday, he believed was a very pernicious animal. He believed that it sounded like the definition of what is wrong with socialism; it is a wonderful system until you run out of other people’s money. He stated that it appears that the County has run out of its own money. He stated that unfortunately now for not having had the vision to deal prospectively with a serious burgeoning health care cost, not only effecting Putnam County and New York State, but effecting the United States of America and we are all suffering under ObamaCare as a result of attempts to pass the bill and figure out what it says later on. He believed it was a great disservice to the institution of this Legislature to try and attempt this massive change in the employee benefit structure. He believed it may subject the Legislature to a Union grievance that will certainly be turned against us which he believed could be much worse than what could have been negotiated at the bargaining table. He stated that, most of all, you break a bond and a covenant with the people who worked for this County 20, 30 and sometimes even 40 years ago. He stated that many of these employees worked for the County at a different

time when salaries were lower and there was some degree of job security and a promise of, if loyal service was given, a modest benefit package would await them in retirement. He stated that if it is something you believe should be done; you should stand up in a public manner, in a proper forum, with notice and an opportunity to be heard. He stated that in regards to where the Legislature would find 3/4 of \$1million, he stated that through correspondence to the Legislators, after confirmation with the Commissioner of Finance, we are under no obligation whatsoever to pay off the entire retirement debt. He stated that at the modest expense of approximately \$67,000 is split the retirement debt in half and we would have at our disposal of approximately \$1.8 million. He stated that there would be another ¾ of \$1 million left over for other necessary and appropriate projects or, perish the thought, to help lower taxes further. He believed that what was being done was procedurally and morally wrong. He stated that when we promise employees a pension and retirement benefit, they are supposed to be actuarially sound from the day you pass it forward. He stated that even this proposal is not actuarially sound. He stated that the enabling legislation which came with the Administration's proposal in this regard couldn't make it clearer that this is just the beginning.

Legislator Gross stated that he met with some CSEA employees today who informed him that they were consulted that there would be an increase, but they were never consulted on specific percentages. He stated that he has received telephone calls from retirees who are quite upset. He agreed that national health care is a problem; however, he stated that we were not going to solve it tonight. He requested that a closer look be taken with regards to this proposal. He believed that the Legislature could realign the budget slightly by taking some funds off the pension payment to cover this shortfall.

Legislator Nacerino stated that there was no doubt in her mind that anyone would want to do this if conditions were good. She stated that Legislator Wright's points were well taken; however, the reality is that we need to approach this head on and have a strategy going forward. She stated that when we kick the can down the road and don't pay our debt, what message is delivered to the future generation living in Putnam County. She stated the costs being transferred to the taxpayers needs to be acknowledged.

Legislator LoBue stated that this topic needed to have a comprehensive discussion. She believed that you could not have a comprehensive discussion when it is placed in the budget and everyone is taken by surprise. She stated that the clock is ticking on the Legislature's review of the budget. She stated that now there may also be labor relations issues. She stated that the Legislature received an email stating that the process was not procedurally correct.

Legislator Wright stated that under Section D(2)(e) for Post-Retirement Benefits it states: "the Legislature may from time to time determine by resolution." He believed this speaks to his point that when we run a little short and need to dip into surplus reserves again in the future year, we will go back and change that again retroactively in whatever amounts we need to "knee jerk" balance the budget in crises mode of deliberations. He stated that Section J. Personnel Department Distribution states: The Director of Personnel is hereby authorized and directed to distribute a copy of this Resolution to all current County

**employees, Retirees and all persons entering the employment of the County of Putnam.”** He questioned if it was fair, reasonable and appropriate after you have done the deed, to have the Personnel Director submit a copy of this Resolution to all mentioned. He believed that tonight this Legislature should direct the Personnel Director to send a copy of this “proposed” legislation to all current County employees, Retirees and all persons entering the employment of the County of Putnam prior to any approval.

Chairman Albano stated that the Legislature wants to do what is right for the 300 plus people that have retired from Putnam County. He stated that although it was not a binding commitment, the County did make a commitment to pay for retirees’ health insurance. He stated unfortunately times have changed and the health insurance cost continuously increase. Therefore, as bills increase it is only fair to make adjustments and have those who are receiving the benefits pay for them. He stated \$4 million dollars from the County’s General Fund will be used to pay for the pension debt. He stated he supports Legislator Nacerino’s proposal as it is a compromise with the Retiree Health Insurance proposal.

Legislator Scuccimarra concurred with Chairman Albano’s statements. She stated she supports Legislator Nacerino’s proposal as it is a compromise. She stated the Legislature needs to consider all of the 100,000 Putnam County residents and what is fair for them.

Legislator Castellano stated he has been a civil servant for over 20 years and he has never been promised healthcare cost be “frozen” when he retires. He stated this matter first arose in 2007 when healthcare costs increased. He stated retiree health insurance cannot be sustained by the County’s tax payers. He stated the cost of the retiree health insurance, \$400,000, is the entire tax cap.

Legislator Nacerino stated if the County breaks the tax cap, the County’s taxpayers will not receive their rebate check.

Legislator Addonizio stated she feels that there has not been adequate time to review the proposal before them. She stated in her opinion, people making up to \$30,000 in their retirement should not contribute at all because they are at the poverty level.

Legislator Nacerino stated the cost of the retiree health insurance should not be a burden placed on the taxpayer.

Legislator Wright suggested a two (2) step payment on the past due retirement benefits. He stated he is aware of the unsustainable costs of healthcare. He stated the last time there has been a proposal to increase the healthcare costs was in 2007. He questioned where the elected officials have been since 2007. He stated this matter was not well publicized and many of those who are affected are unaware of this. He believed those who are going to be affected by healthcare increases should have been given notice. He stated public hearings should be established for people and even Legislators to state their opinions.

**Chairman Albano made a motion to approve to amend the original resolution as presented through the Administration; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. FOUR NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, GROSS, LOBUE, & WRIGHT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Chairman Albano made a motion to adjust the fiscal implications as proposed by Legislator Nacerino; seconded by Legislator Nacerino.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. FOUR NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, GROSS, LOBUE, & WRIGHT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Legislator Nacerino made a motion to approve the resolution as amended with the proposed changes; seconded by Chairman Albano.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. FOUR NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, GROSS, LOBUE, & WRIGHT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #8 – Legislator Gross’ Proposal to Eliminate the Bureau of Emergency Services Second Deputy Commissioner Position**

Legislator Gross proposed to eliminate the second Bureau of Emergency Services Deputy Commissioner position. He stated the position would cost approximately \$75,000 (*line # 398913105*). He stated he does not believe the County is in a sound fiscal position to add employee positions. He stated he respects new Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Sutton but this increase cannot be taken on at this time.

Legislator Nacerino stated she will be voting to keep the proposed position in place. She stated Commissioner Sutton made a compelling argument as to why this position is important. She stated our objective as elected officials is to maintain the health, safety and welfare of our residents. She stated Commissioner Sutton was selected to become the Commissioner because of his wealth of knowledge in this area. He was also hired to clean up the deficiencies in the County’s Bureau of Emergency Services Department and to do so the Legislature needs to provide him with the proper tools.

Chairman Albano concurred with Legislator Nacerino. He stated the Legislature has been made aware of potential issues in the Bureau of Emergency Services Department and the Legislature would like to see this Department run at its absolute best.

Legislator LoBue stated she supports Legislator Gross’ proposal. She stated Commissioner Sutton was selected because of his diverse background and his high qualifications. She stated she does not understand the need for two (2) Deputy Commissioner positions. She stated on top of the proposal for an additional Deputy Commissioner, Commissioner Sutton requested for the establishment of another position,

CAD Administrator; which would come to an increase of approximately \$130,000. She stated she cannot support the increase in government.

Legislator Nacerino stated the County needs to be prepared for unplanned circumstances.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated it is impossible to predict what may occur in the future. She stated the County is fortunate to have Commissioner Sutton. She stated she supports Commissioner Sutton's proposals brought forward.

Legislator Wright stated there was great frustration with the Legislature last year regarding personnel adjustments and structural changes. He stated as Chair of the Personnel Committee, Legislator Nacerino did her best to see the Legislature was not put in a tough situation. He stated he has the utmost respect for the new Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services.

Legislator Nacerino stated she agrees with Legislator Wright in terms of fully discussing personnel matters in advance. She stated the Legislature made every attempt to do so but, the information was not forthcoming.

Legislator Wright suggested putting the funding for the second Deputy Commissioner position in sub-contingency and discussing this matter in January 2016.

Legislator Gross stated the administrative positions are being added at the expense of non-administrative positions. He stated the County is not in the financial position to spend approximately \$100,000 for a new position.

Legislator Castellano stated the Legislature frequently speaks to the health and safety of our residents. He stated the County is located very close to Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant. He stated he proposes to begin funding for the new Bureau of Emergency Services Deputy Commissioner position on April 1, 2016 to create a fiscal savings.

Legislator Wright questioned if the maker and the seconder of the amendment would support placing the funding for the proposed 3/4 of the year's salary for this position in sub-contingency. He stated that the matter would then be addressed at the beginning of the year to determine if the position meets the concerns of the Protective Services Chair.

Legislator Castellano stated he does not want to put the funding in sub-contingency but, at least compromise in 1/4 of years' savings.

Legislator Gross made a motion to eliminate the proposed Bureau of Emergency Services Deputy Commissioner position; seconded by Legislator Wright.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FOUR AYES. FIVE NAYS- LEGISLATORS CASTELLANO, GOULDMAN, NACERINO, SUCCIMARRA & ALBANO. MOTION FAILS.**

**Legislator Castellano made a motion to fund the proposed Bureau of Emergency Services Deputy Commissioner position for ¾ of the year beginning on April 1, 2016; seconded by Legislator Nacerino and Chairman Albano.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. FOUR NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, GROSS, LOBUE & WRIGHT. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Item #9 – Legislator Gross’ Proposal to Reinstate Mr. James Ciulla’s Position as Emergency System Plan Administrator.**

Legislator LoBue stated she supports Legislator Gross’ motion. She stated she believes Mr. Ciulla to be an asset to the County. She stated he is intelligent and well respected by the community.

Legislator Gross stated former Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Bob McMahon sought out Mr. Ciulla and created a position for him because he could efficiently work with technology.

Legislator Addonizio stated she has the utmost respect for Commissioner Sutton and his judgment. She stated she is very uncomfortable in making a personnel decision tonight.

Legislator Wright stated a departmental restructure of this nature needs more deliberation than what was given.

Legislator Nacerino stated Commissioner Sutton explained the importance of the CAD Administrator position. She stated that Commissioner Sutton prefers that the CAD Administrator position be implemented and Mr. Ciulla’s position be dissolved. She stated since this is a civil service position, Mr. Ciulla is more than welcome to take the civil service exam.

Legislator Castellano stated the Legislature respects Commissioner Sutton. He stated the Legislature has given Commissioner Sutton the task of rebuilding the Bureau of Emergency Services. He states he supports his proposal.

Legislator Gross made a motion to reinstate Mr. James Ciulla’s position; seconded by Legislator LoBue.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FOUR AYES. FIVE NAYS- LEGISLATORS CASTELLANO, GOULDMAN, NACERINO, SUCCIMARRA & ALBANO. MOTION FAILS.**

**Item #10 – Legislator Gross’ Proposal to Remove \$14,000 County Contributions from the Visitor’s Bureau’s Budget.**

**Legislator Gross proposed to reducing the Visitor's Bureau Budget by \$14,000. He questioned when the Legislature was going to take a stand and reduce funding in the budget.**

**County Auditor Michele Sharkey stated the total budget for the Visitor's Bureau is \$214,139. She stated the County contributes \$141,996 (*line #25641000 54950*) to the Visitor's Bureau's budget. She stated the Matching Funds Grant is \$57,143 (*line #25641000 54621*), the Advertising line is \$5,000(*line #25641000 54664*) and the Leased Transportation line is \$10,000 (*line #25641000 54678*).**

**Legislator Scuccimarra stated she understands Legislator Gross is looking to cut spending however, the Visitor's Bureau brings in tourists and sales tax revenue. She stated Putnam County depends on tourism to provide a revenue source.**

**Legislator Gross stated in the Town of Southeast the Highlands Center and other stores provide a substantial amount of revenue to Putnam County through sales tax.**

**Legislator Nacerino stated she does not support the reduction of the County Contribution for the Visitor's Bureau. She stated she and Legislator Castellano visited the "Butterfield" Site and they were amazed with the amount of tourists that visit the Village of Cold Spring area on a Saturday. She stated tourists also come to visit other areas such as the Thunder Ridge Ski Area in the Town of Patterson. She stated people come from out of the County to frequent these areas. She stated tourists contribute to the quality of life and sales tax revenue for the County. She stated the County would like to maximize tourism.**

**Chairman Albano stated he does not support the proposal introduced by Legislator Gross. He stated tourism is very important especially for sales tax.**

**Legislator Gouldman stated tourism is a big factor and a big help in the County receiving revenue. He stated here in Putnam County there is skiing, hiking, and small shops that bring people into the County. He stated he wishes the County did more to promote tourism. He stated he would like to increase the budget for the Visitor's Bureau.**

**Legislator LoBue stated she agrees with Legislator Gross's proposal to reduce the County Contribution by \$14,000. She stated the Legislature has very little oversight in regards to the Visitor's Bureau. She stated she understands the value of tourism, however there needs to be more oversight with the money that the Legislature appropriates to them. She stated she is not sure if the money is being spent wisely. She stated Putnam County is the leading county in foreclosures. She stated \$8 million dollars has been taken from the reserves this year. She stated there is a structural deficit because the spending is outpacing the revenue.**

**Legislator Castellano stated the Visitor's Bureau has organized great events in the Town of Southeast such as the Pumpkin Palooza and the Egg Stravaganza. He stated the Visitor's Bureau will be helping with the promotion of the newly established hockey team.**

He stated in 2015 the County increased the County Contribution by approximately \$25,000 to match the State Contribution.

Legislator LoBue questioned how the additional money was spent.

Legislator Castellano stated the money was spent on great events. He stated he believes advertising is important; for example advertisements for the fireworks display at the Highlands Shopping Center assisted in having a great turnout. He stated he believes the funding provided by the County is a fair amount.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated when the Economic Development & Energy Committee requests a representative from the Visitor's Bureau, there is someone present at the Committee meeting to provide the requested information. She stated the Visitor's Bureau assists many organizations and the main streets for the local municipalities.

Legislator LoBue stated that spending has tripled for advertising. She questioned why the Visitor's Bureau hires consultants.

Legislator Nacerino stated the Visitor's Bureau assists in the quality of life of Putnam County residents. She stated the spending has tripled but so has the attendance of the events. She stated she also believes there is a distinct difference between when the Bondi Administration took money from the reserves and when the Odell Administration took money from the reserves. She stated under the Bondi Administration when they took the money from reserves there was a significant increase in the residents' tax bills.

Chairman Albano stated the Visitor's Bureau does a tremendous job. He stated if a Legislator requests information on the funding spent by the Visitor's Bureau, they provide that information to us.

Legislator Gross made a motion to remove \$14,000 from the County Contribution (*line #25641000 54950*); seconded by Legislator LoBue.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: THREE AYES. SIX NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, CASTELLANO, GOULD MAN, NACERINO, SCUCCIMARRA, AND ALBANO. MOTION FAILS.

Item #11 – Legislator Gross' Proposal to Remove \$10,000 from the Visitor's Bureau Leased Transportation Line (*line #25641000 54678*)

Legislator Gross stated it is his understanding that there has been approximately \$6,800 spent this year in the Leased Transportation Line.

Legislator Castellano stated he asked Transportation Manager Vincent Tamagna to clarify the amount spent for the Leased Transportation Line. He stated the Trolley System will be beneficial for those who used the train to go to the Brewster Ice Arena.

**Legislator LoBue questioned what the total ridership for the Trolley System was.**

**Legislator Gross stated the County can use the County shuttles to transport people for special events.**

**Transportation Manager Tamagna stated as Legislator Castellano referenced the Leased Transportation is used for events in the County; such as providing a transport service to bring people to the hockey games. He stated this funding also helped to provide transportation for commuters when there was the Metro-North Train derailment. He stated this funding is very critical for the County and it is not a lot of funding.**

**Legislator LoBue stated the information that Transportation Manager Tamagna provided to the Legislature does not show the number of passengers on each trolley.**

**Transportation Manger Tamagna stated it will not be illustrated in what he provided to the Legislature because passengers are counted by fare and there is no fare for the trollies.**

**Legislator LoBue stated there should be a tracking mechanism to count how many individuals ride the trollies used for special events. She stated with a known total there can be an evaluation of the success of the shuttle system.**

**Transportation Manager Tamagna stated he can provide a rough estimate. He stated he is aware the ridership for the Constitution Island event was unsuccessful; however it was a good test run. He stated ridership for the 4-H Fair was low in 2015 but, in 2016 it will improve. He stated tourism is very important.**

**Legislator Castellano restated that to provide transportation from the Brewster Train Station to the Brewster Ice Area would be a “win-win” situation.**

**Transportation Manager Tamagna stated he is restricted in how he can use his shuttles because they are paid for with Federal Transit Administration dollars. He stated he can only use the shuttles on advertised fixed routes. He stated he can use the Veterans Department Bus and the two (2) trollies for other purposes than a fixed route.**

**Legislator Gross made a motion to remove \$10,000 from the Leased Transportation Line (*line #25641000 54678*); seconded by Legislator LoBue.**

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: TWO AYES. SEVEN NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, CASTELLANO, GOULDMAN, NACERINO, SCUCCIMARRA, WRIGHT & CHAIRMAN ALBANO. MOTION FAILS.**

**Item #12 – Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra’s Proposal to Increase the Partnership Initiative Line (Line #10027000 54936) for Garbage Removal in Village of Cold Spring.**

**Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra** stated the Village of Cold Spring (“Cold Spring”) receives \$7,500 for garbage (*Line #10027000 54936*). She stated Cold Spring would like to fund \$14,000 to purchase Big Belly Compactors to assist with the overflow of garbage. She stated she would like to compromise and fund this line to a total of \$10,000. She stated these Big Belly Compactors operate by solar power and can hold much more garbage. She stated that due to the high volume of tourism, the Village is faced with a garbage issue.

**Legislator Castellano** stated the Village of Brewster states they have similar issues with being overwhelmed with garbage. He stated if the Legislature considers the additional funding for garbage, he would like the Village of Brewster to receive an increase as well.

**Legislator Nacerino** stated she cannot support this proposal with the fiscal constraints the County is facing this year. She believed the Village of Brewster feels slighted because they currently do not receive funding for their garbage problem. She stated this matter needs to be looked into further.

**Legislator Wright** concurred with Legislator Nacerino.

**Legislator Scuccimarra** made a motion to approve an increase of \$2,500 in the Partnership Initiative Line (*Line #10027000 54936*); seconded by Chairman Albano.

**BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ONE AYE. EIGHT NAYS- LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, CASTELLANO, GOULD MAN, GROSS, LOBUE, NACERINO, WRIGHT, AND CHAIRMAN ALBANO. MOTION FAILS.**

There being no further business; at 8:14 P.M., Chairman Albano made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Sommers, Administrative Assistant.