

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM #318
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairman Gouldman & Legislators Castellano & Jonke

Tuesday **6:30 p.m.** **February 21, 2017**
(Physical Services Meeting Immediately Followed)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Chairman Gouldman who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Castellano, Jonke and Chairman Gouldman were present.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #3 – Approval/Protective Services Committee Meeting Minutes/November 22, 2016

Chairman Gouldman stated that the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 – Approval/Fund Transfer (16T412)/Sheriff's Department/Cover Jail Overtime to 2016 Year End

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Meeting Fund Transfer (16T412) Sheriff's Department/Cover Jail Overtime to 2016 Year End; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor. (*This item went to this meeting in error. It was passed at the January 2017 Audit & Administration meeting, and approved at the February 2017 Full Legislature Meeting Reso#35*)

Item #5 Approval/Fund Transfer (17T018)/Sheriff's Department/Cover Overtime Due to Vacancies

Chairman Gouldman requested that Lieutenant James Greenough of the Sheriff's Department speak to this matter.

Lieutenant James Greenough stated right now there are four (4) openings. He stated that there are two background checks being conducted on two (2) potential candidates. He stated that the list of applicants has recently been received from the Personnel Department. He stated in reference to female officers, the canvas letters are being sent out, once they are returned the background checks will begin.

Legislator LoBue questioned what time period is covered by this fund transfer amount of \$13,948.

Lieutenant James Greenough stated it covers January 2017.

Legislator Castellano requested clarification. He questioned out of the four (4) openings, one will be filled with a female officer.

Lieutenant James Greenough stated the Sheriff's Department will be attempting to hire two (2) or three (3) female officers. He stated that there could be another opening at the end of March 2017 due to a retirement.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Committee Fund Transfer (17T018)/Sheriff's Department/Cover Overtime Due to Vacancies; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval/Inter-Municipal Agreement with Local School Districts:

- a. **Approval/Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with The Board of Education of the Local School *Districts For Emergency Shelters (**Haldane School District, Garrison Union Free School District & Putnam Valley Central School Districts*)**
- b. **Approval/Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Board of Education of the Carmel Central School District For Emergency Shelters**
- c. **Approval/Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Board of Education of the Mahopac Central School District For Emergency Shelters**

Chairman Gouldman requested that First Deputy County Attorney Negro speak to agenda item #6 a, b, and c.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro and Commissioner Sutton spoke to this matter.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated Deputy County Attorney Anna Diaz prepared these agreements in conjunction with Commissioner Sutton. He stated the documents are Inter-Municipal Agreements (IMA) with different school districts. He stated the agreement would designate that the said school district properties would be used in state of emergency-disastrous situations as comfort stations and relief stations. He stated in accordance with General Municipal Law 119-O, which requires Legislative approval for IMAs such as this.

Commissioner Sutton stated approximately a year ago, he spoke to the Legislature regarding the first agreement that was done with the Brewster School System. He stated that he mentioned at that time they would be back, because the other school districts were still under review. He stated rather than having several agreements with the Red Cross, the schools or any other organization in the schools, a blanket agreement was agreed to. He stated they wanted clear decisions made on who would be responsible for what, such as notification and post clean-up of the space used. He stated that it was agreed to that the each schools janitorial staff will do the actual clean up, while the County will cover the cost. He stated it made more sense for the schools to have their own staffs do that, because the fact is they know their school better.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if it is one standard agreement for all of the School Districts.

Commissioner Sutton stated that is correct.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that the recreation department, down the road from Garrison Schools has become a shelter facility. She questioned if Garrison School needs to be on board with this or does the Recreation Department need to sign it also.

Commissioner Sutton stated that he believes the Recreation Department signed an agreement independently with the Red Cross.

Legislator LoBue stated in the past, she believed that the Senior Centers were used as shelters, why would the schools now be used.

Commissioner Sutton stated the Schools would be used for serious situations. He stated for the Senior Centers are good to serve as comfort stations. He stated that can be used for cooling in the summer and warming in the winter. He stated if there was a need to relocate large portions of the population, there would be a need for even more room.

Legislator LoBue questioned what would the trigger be to utilize the schools.

Commissioner Sutton stated the trigger would be the severity of the situation. He stated that everyone gravitated to utilizing schools. He stated the issue with that is that it slows down the ability to get back to "normal". He stated one of the first steps would be to open the schools.

Legislator LoBue questioned if there have been any cost figures calculated.

Commissioner Sutton stated it was written in the agreement that community based groups, such as Red Cross, would be utilized to man the locations.

Legislator LoBue stated for clarification, the county employees would not be manning these locations.

Commissioner Sutton stated that is correct. He stated the county does not have enough staff to man the locations and do all that needs to be done in an emergency situation.

Legislator LoBue questioned First Deputy County Attorney Negro as to whether other such agreements were researched in the creation of Putnam County IMA with the schools.

Commissioner Sutton stated that he did do that. He stated in the State Education Law, they are required to cooperate with local Emergency Management. He stated that is part of the School Districts Responsibility. He stated that is why they went to such great lengths to assign who will be responsible for what. He stated that the goal was to have as many of the questions answered as possible.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she is very supportive of this. She stated although a school may not be the ideal scenario, she agrees that it is the right thing to do and have in place if the need were to arise.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated on the western side of the county it is so important to have the services of the Red Cross, because of the isolation of the area from the rest of the county.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to Approve Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with The Board of Education of the Local School *Districts For Emergency Shelters (**Haldane School District, Garrison Union Free School District & Putnam Valley Central School Districts*); Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to Approval/Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Board of Education of the Carmel Central School District For Emergency Shelters; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to Approval/Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Board of Education of the Mahopac Central School District For Emergency Shelters Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval/Re-Appointments/Traffic Safety Board (*alternates *1 year term -3 year term*)/ *William Meyer, *John Tully, Sheriff Donald Smith, James Oster, Dennis Illuminate, Lieutenant William Bertram

Chairman Gouldman stated that there are re-appointments to the Traffic Safety Board to be considered. He stated the Traffic Safety Board addresses traffic issues throughout Putnam County.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve the Re-Appointments to the Traffic Safety Board (*alternates *1 year term -3 year term*)/ *William Meyer, *John Tully, Sheriff Donald Smith, James Oster, Dennis Illuminate, Lieutenant William Bertram; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #8 – Approval/Re-Appointments/Members of The Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board (3 year term)/Frank Christian, Ed Butler, Eric Gross, Albert Jacobs, Dave Jacobsen, Eileen Barrett, Eric Peters, Kevin Neary & Fran McCarthy

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional-revised proposed resolution; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Chairman Gouldman stated the Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board address safety issues throughout the county and for emergency services safety.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve the Re-Appointments/Members of The Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board (3 year term)/Frank Christian, Ed Butler, Eric Gross; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Legislator LoBue questioned why the other members were not re-appointed.

Chairman Gouldman stated that it was requested that the revision be made to only re-appoint the three (3) members mentioned at this time.

Item #9 – Update/Newly Appointed Putnam County Undersheriff Paul Boscia

Chairman Gouldman welcomed and introduced newly appointed Putnam County Undersheriff Paul Boscia.

Undersheriff Boscia thanked the committee members and Legislators, who were present, for the opportunity to address them. He stated that he brought a copy of the Sheriff's Mission Statement that he would like to submit.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Undersheriff Boscia stated the focus of the Sheriff's Department will remain on the Mission Statement of the Sheriff's Department. He stated that includes providing services to Putnam County and take care of the employees of the Sheriff's Department. He stated that the Sheriff's Department will continue to be fair and consistent and provide the knowledge and training to the employees so they can do their job. He stated that he will work to implement the collective vision of the Sheriff and the command staff. He stated that he has served the county and the Sheriff's Department for the past 30 years. He stated that he knows what the needs are and he will use his knowledge to bring what improvements he can to the department. He stated the Sheriff's Department will continue to keep people safe on the roads and in their homes. He stated the Sheriff's Department will continue to partner with State and Federal Agencies in the continued war against drugs. He stated the Sheriff's Department is a service agency, and he believes the employees of the Sheriff's Department really care and will continue to maintain polished and professional personnel. He stated that he will work to insure the continuity that makes available to our employees the ability to advance through the ranks without losing the benefits that they have accrued throughout their career. He stated he personally never took the position of a Captain, because he did not want to give up the benefits he had by being in the union. He stated that the Sheriff's Department provides cutting edge training. He stated that one of the Sergeants will be attending the FBI Academy in April. He stated that provides the opportunity to network with others in the field from all over the Country. He stated the replacement of the patrol vehicles that the Legislature has supported has been very positive. He stated if the County continues this practice it will ensure the safety of the personnel and keep the fleet very sound. He stated that there will be retirements this year. With that said the interview process ensures that there will be quality replacements. He stated recently the narcotics K-9 Dog was retired. He stated there are two (2) explosive dogs. He stated that there was a narcotics Dog donated to the Sheriff's Department through an extremely generous donation from a benefactor who lives in Patterson. He stated the Sheriff's Department has been contacted by the same benefactor who would like to donate another narcotic K-9 Dog. He stated that he believes the K-9s are very important in the fight against the drugs. He stated Captain Velotti will address that matter in more detail during the discussion of the next agenda item. He stated that he is hoping that the Legislature will support this offer of narcotics K-9 Dog as well as a vehicle to accommodate the K-9 Dog. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has partnered with the

Westchester County Narcotics division and the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency to better combat the heroin epidemic in this area. He stated that the funds secured through the Seized Asset Forfeiture Program are used to pay for the partnerships and the work done. He stated the Sheriff's Department is entering into a vehicle rental contract. He stated it is cost effective and a practice used by other departments in the surrounding area, who advocated for the benefits of having such an agreement. He stated funding from the Seized Asset Forfeiture Program will be used to cover the cost of the vehicle rental contract. He stated there is a need to replace equipment in the Bureau of Criminal Investigation Department (BCI). He stated that the Sheriff's Department will develop a specific policy related to animal cruelty. He stated monitoring and addressing animal cruelty incumbent by State Law falls under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Department. He stated that currently the SPCA helps in addressing this existing problem. He stated there will need to be funds requested, it is expensive, to address this matter. He stated that he would like to have the Sheriff's Office in Putnam Valley renovated or find a new space. He stated that the old Putnam Valley Police Station is perfectly located site, located in the center of town.

Legislator LoBue questioned who would be paying for all of this. She stated that she recalls that work was done at the site.

Undersheriff Boscia stated the Putnam Valley Police sub-station did have the roof and chimney done, however the rest of the building is falling apart. He stated he would estimate it would need at least another \$100,000 to fix it. He stated he believes the county could sell that location, he noted that the location is prime real estate in that area. He stated the money obtained by the sale would provide needed funding.

Legislator LoBue stated she was not aware that Undersheriff Boscia would be presenting a budget requests at this meeting.

Undersheriff Boscia stated he was requested to attend this meeting to present his focus. He stated these items are what he will be focused on and will be requesting in the future.

Legislator LoBue stated that she was hoping to hear Undersheriff Boscia's personal view of this new role as Undersheriff.

Undersheriff Boscia stated that he has served as a cop for the past 30 years and loved his job. He stated that he has taken on this new role as Undersheriff to work on different areas, that he as an Officer saw needed to be worked on. He stated that he wants to make this very good Sheriff's Department the very best Sheriff's Department in the Hudson Valley. He stated he believes right now he has the support of the Sheriff and the men and women of the Sheriff's Department, and plans to go full speed ahead. He stated that is his focus in his new role.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if the rental cars will need to be retrofitted in any way.

Undersheriff Boscia stated they will not be retrofitted. He stated he does not have the financials with him. However they have been calculated and the new practice of using rentals cars is expected to end up as a cost savings.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if other departments are using this practice.

Undersheriff Boscia confirmed that they are.

Chairman Gouldman stated that he likes the Undersheriff's ideas pertaining to Putnam Valley. He stated that he believes there has been a need there for quite a while. He stated he looks forward to speaking to it in the future.

Legislator Nacerino stated that Undersheriff Boscia has big shoes to fill, with the passing of Pete Convery. She stated we are very happy to have you on board and happy that the Sheriff chose someone who knows the dynamics of the Police Department, the dynamics of the county and has history with Putnam County. She stated the Undersheriff is a position in the Sheriff's Department that interfaces with the Legislature. She stated that she looks forward to working with him as the Putnam County Undersheriff. She stated that she likes his innovative and forward thinking.

Legislator Castellano questioned with regards to the Police Station in Putnam Valley, that was mentioned earlier, who owns it.

Undersheriff Boscia stated the County owns it. He stated that Putnam Valley has not had a police department for some time. He stated their Police Station was located across from Town Hall, and is still owned by Putnam Valley. He stated that he believes the State Police have a substation in that location. However he is not sure that they even use it.

Chairman Gouldman stated the former substation across from the Post Office is used by the County.

Undersheriff Boscia stated the advantage of keeping that space is that the public knows that they are there. However there are problems with the location. He stated there is no ability to secure the police vehicles. He stated that glass and nails have been found here and there in the parking lot.

Chairman Gouldman stated that discussion and work can be done to possibly put up a huge fence.

Undersheriff Boscia stated the roof and chimney have been fixed. He stated that there is a new boiler also. He stated the water is contaminated, there needs to be a water filtration system put in and the inside, was a dentist office. He stated the current space is not conducive to police work. He stated there will be money needed to fix it. He stated that is why he made the suggestion of selling it, since the location is desirable and use that money to get a different space in the valley. He stated that he recognizes he could be wrong. It is just part of his focus.

Chairman Gouldman stated that he believes the Town would work something out with the Sheriff's Department.

Item #10 - Discussion/Sheriff's Department/Donation of Narcotics Detection K-9 & Police Vehicle

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Captain Velotti stated that in 2016 Duncan from the Sheriff's Department Retired. He was 10 years old and served at the Sheriff's Department as a Narcotics Detection K-9 Dog for eight (8) years. He stated that Duncan was certified for patrol, tracking and narcotics. He stated Duncan and his handler were recognized on numerous occasions for a job well done. He stated when Mr. and Mrs. Stilwell of Patterson, New York heard about the retirement of Duncan last year, they donated to the Putnam County's Sheriff's Department a \$44,000 Ford Explorer, outfitted for K-9 patrol and they donated a male shepherd Narcotics Detection K-9, Lex. He stated Lex was bread and trained in Holland. He stated the Stilwell's are passionate about the fight against drugs. He stated that in 2017, from January 1st to date, there have been 10 overdose deaths in Putnam County. He stated that currently Putnam County has two (2) dogs trained for narcotics detection Lex and Radar. He stated that Radar is assigned to the Kent Police Department. He stated the State Police do have narcotic detection dogs that are available to Putnam County, but no dog is assigned to Putnam County. He stated that the Stilwells have approached the Sheriff's Department again and have made an extremely generous offer of another Narcotics Detection K-9 Dog and Vehicle. He stated the dog would be available to all of the departments in the county. He stated the dog would be used for jail searches, patrol, tracking, school searches and to the Sheriff's Narcotics Division. He stated the only cost to the County would be the contractual stipend for the handler. He stated he hopes the Legislature will consider approving this donation.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if he had the amount of the stipend.

Captain Velotti stated it would be a yearly stipend in the amount of \$6,000.

Legislator Jonke questioned if the Officer would bring the dog home.

Captain Velotti stated that is correct the Officer and the dog are together 24/7.

Legislator Castellano questioned if that Officer will be taken off patrol.

Captain Velotti stated no the dog would be assigned to a Deputy that is on patrol and work with the Deputy.

Legislator LoBue questioned what happens to the Dog during the day.

Captain Velotti stated the dog is on road patrol with the Officer, the Dog and Officer are together 24/7.

Legislator Albano stated these trained Dogs are so valuable to their mission. He stated with the drug situation in the world today, he believes it needs to be hit with everything available. He

stated the generosity of these people is unbelievable. He stated it will cost the County money to cover the stipend. However compared to the overall costs, he supports accepting the donation.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated with 10 deaths since January 1, 2017, it says this is a scourge that is not getting better. She stated the police department is very diligent in what they are doing, but she stated anything that can help them in this monumental task she supports. She stated \$6,000 is a small price to pay compared to what the county would receive in resources.

Chairman Gouldman questioned what the number of deaths were for the same time period in 2016.

Captain Velotti stated he does not have that information with him tonight.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if he knew the total number of overdose deaths in 2016.

Captain Velotti he stated that he would get that information, he does not know it off the top of his head.

Legislator LoBue stated that she would like to receive a list of the names of the fatalities. She questioned if the Sheriff's Department handled all of the cases.

Captain Velotti stated no, the cases were throughout the County.

Legislator LoBue questioned if she could receive the list along with the agencies that handled the fatalities.

Captain Velotti stated that information should come from the Coroner's Office.

Legislator Castellano stated that a letter requesting this information should be sent to Coordinator of Coroners Dr. Nesheiwat.

Legislator Sullivan stated this County is very lucky to have such a generous couple. He stated that he would like to have some gesture of appreciation put forward to them from the Legislature. He questioned how much it costs to train the dog.

Captain Velotti stated that the Stilwells did not offer that information.

Legislator Nacerino stated Mr. and Mrs. Stilwell are from Patterson, and she sent them a letter of sincere appreciation on behalf of the Legislature in response to the previous extremely generous donation. She stated that will be done again. She stated she believes the \$6,000 pales in comparison to the resources the County will receive.

Legislator LoBue questioned who would have access to the use of the donated vehicle.

Captain Velotti stated the Officer who is assigned to work with the dog. He stated the vehicle will be outfitted specific to the dog. He explained the vehicle itself is not a lot of money, when

utilizing the contracts and the bids through the State. He stated the outfitting of the inside of the vehicle to accommodate the dog is what is expensive. He stated the donated funding is what will be used to customize and outfit this particular vehicle.

Legislator Castellano questioned how far in the process is the donation.

Captain Velotti stated the Stilwell's have stated that once the approval process of the County is completed, they will cut the check.

Legislator Castellano questioned if there is an urgency to move on this at this meeting or can it be approved by committee at the March Protective meeting and then at the April Full.

Legislative Representative First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated this matter was on the agenda as a discussion tonight. He stated that he recommends that it be handled through the March committee meetings and then sent to the April Full Meeting.

Item #11 - Update/Access Ability to All County Cell Phones-IT/GIS Director Lannon

IT/GIS Director Tom Lannon stated initially he thought the questions were, what access does the County have to a County issued cell phone. He stated that the County has access to all of the calls made, and access to the amount of data used. He stated beyond that the County does not have access. He stated that text messages are in the phone but erased by Verizon in about 5-7 days. He stated Verizon will not release the text messages. He stated a subpoena would need to be obtained. He explained that Apple and Android encrypt the phone that prevents you from getting into the phone.

Legislator LoBue stated to be clear, the county gives some employees, cell phones and they are paid for by the County, however there is not a mechanism in place to access the phone records completely.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated that is correct.

Legislator LoBue stated she does not understand how the County got to this point, when the County is paying for the phone.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated he understands that. He stated for clarification the County can access e-mails sent from the phones. He stated that they cannot access the text messages, photos and web browser history. He stated that is not to say that it cannot be done. He stated software could be put on the county server that manages all of the cell phones. He stated that software is expensive.

Legislator Jonke questioned how many phones are issued by the county and how is it determined who gets a phone and who does not.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated there about 200 devices issued by the county; they are not all cell phones. He stated for example all of the Sheriff's vehicles have aircards. He stated a request to

issue a cell phone is sent from the Department Head to the Cell Phone Committee for consideration.

Legislator Albano stated this brings the focus back to the need to have an updated IT Policy in place.

Legislator Jonke questioned out of the 200 devices how many are aircards.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated approximately 20.

Legislator Jonke stated even if there was an updated IT Policy in place, according the Director Lannon, the County will not be able to enforce it.

Legislator Albano stated that he understands that, but still supports that the policy be in place. He stated that he believes there should be record kept of passwords on County issued cell phones.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated the County Law Department is currently working on a specific cell phone policy. He stated he believes it should be ready for review in the next few months.

Legislator Castellano questioned if an office policy could be developed that allow the county to establish a 4 digit password on a county phone and require that the employees not have the ability to change it.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated the biggest obstacle would be the component of monitoring the passwords to make sure they are not changed. He stated he does not have enough staff to monitor all of the county issued phones and make sure the passwords were not changed. He stated if monitoring the passwords is what the County decides to do, there are software packages that do that. He stated if a phone is lost the County does have the ability to “brick” the phone; which means disable it.

Legislator Nacerino stated the incident that brought this discussion to the forefront was that of the San Bernardino, California Gunman’s cell phone. She stated that it was past Legislator Wright, who posed the question of would the County be able to crack a cell phone should a scenario of that nature arise in the County. She stated that she does argue that cell phones are not a luxury, nor does she believe that it would be a one size fits all policy. She stated certain county agencies such as the Sheriff’s Department Police Officers, Emergency Services, Child Protection Services Workers and the Attorney who work in the County’s District Attorney Office have county issued phones with highly confidential information on them. She stated she does not believe in those cases that it would be appropriate to have phones issued that other people had passwords to. She stated at the NYSAC Conference in February there was a seminar about Cyber Security. She stated she would stress the county needs to get an IT/GIS Policy. She stated it has been being discussed for years, but she believes it needs to be finalized.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated he agrees.

Legislator LoBue stated that she does believe having a county cell phone is a luxury. She stated that not in the case of the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office. However in the issuance of a phone to Department Heads and the Manager of the golf course, she views that as a luxury. She stated she believes county cell phones should be issued on a necessity basis. She stated that it opens the county to a lot of different issues. She stated all of that information can be obtained through the F.O.I.L. process.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated that is correct. He stated when an employee is issued a county phone they are informed that they have entered in the world of F.O.I.L. and the county will comply.

Legislator Albano questioned if there is an ability to put a password on a phone that cannot be changed.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated there is, but it would require a higher level of programming which would require a yearly cost to the county to maintain that function.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that she would imagine out of 200 phones the majority of them are issued to employees who work in the Social Service Office, District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office, which she believes is a necessity that they have county phones. She stated in reference to the Putnam Golf Course Manager she supports him having a county cell phone, he manages a big area.

IT/GIS Director Lannon stated it is a closely monitored process, headed by Deputy Commissioner of Finance Anita Gilbert. IT/GIS Director Lannon stated he is contacted by Deputy Commissioner of Finance Anita Gilbert immediately if an employee has gone over their usage, the cell phone program in the county is not taken lightly.

Item #12 - Discussion/Governor Cuomo – Closure of Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant by 2021

Chairman Gouldman invited Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Sutton to speak to this agenda item.

Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Sutton stated to bring everyone up to speed there are two (2) operating reactors at Indian Point, unit #2 went on line in 1973 and unit #3 went on line in 1975. He stated at that time nuclear industry was envisioned to be a renewable commodity. He stated it was never intended that fuel would stay on the site. It was intended that the fuel would be shipped offsite and recycled. He stated over the course of years and with the evolution of the world, every single rod ever brought to Indian Point is still there. He stated that is the case throughout the Country with any operating reactor. He stated Governor Cuomo announced he struck a deal with Entergy to close unit #3 in 2021 and unit #2 in 2022. He stated a reactor works for a two (2) year period and then they go into a refueling outage. He stated the sunset dates are associated with fuel outages. He provided further detail on the process. He stated next month unit #3 will go offline in another 30 days or so. He stated then it will go for two (2) years, and it will be refueled again in 2019 with the understanding that in 2022, when it

would normally come up for a refueling again, it will come offline. He stated to do a refueling, it should be noted that it doubles the workforce at the site with contractors that come, who are just associated with that work. He provided further insight to the process of refueling. He stated that he believes that we will see Entergy honor those dates. He stated that they are not hard dates. He stated that he believes the Governor has the ability to ask that they stay open longer. He stated that he believes that Entergy would look to the Governor's Office for some subsidies. He stated again they were never meant to stay open this long. He stated the companies have done a great job in the maintenance. He stated that Entergy reported they were planning to shut the plants down anyways because they absolutely envision them to become unprofitable by the end of this decade. He stated the cost of natural gas has killed the nuclear energy market. He stated that they reported that the fight against their relicensing has cost them \$200 million. He stated that they have been fighting this for almost ten (10) years now. He stated the average plant in the Country gets relicensed in about two (2) years' time. He stated they have become weary from the fight. He stated what this means to the County in terms of financial support is substantial. He stated that his Department will experience approximately a \$400,020 revenue loss. He stated the minute the reactor goes offline the money is gone. He stated that it is a potential problem for his department. He stated that there is also a consultant on staff that works in the Bureau of Emergency Services. He stated obviously the consultant will be removed also. He stated they offer a tremendous amount of support to the county. He stated also there are residents who live in Putnam County who work at Indian Point, who will no longer have a job. He stated that there are stories of plants in other areas that have shut down, resulting in the economies around the plant as having dried up; resulting in very tough times for those areas. He stated the way it works is when the plant is shut down the Nuclear Regulatory Commission keeps all of the offsite planning in place. He stated the fuel that comes out of the reactor needs to go into the Spent Fuel Pool (SFP). He stated it needs to sit for five (5) years because it is too hot to handle. He stated that it is considered safe in the SFP. He stated once the fuel is safe to handle, it is put into dry cask storage which are stored on a large platform until a decision is made as to what to do with the Spent Rods. He stated that the support of Entergy will not cease immediately because there is a threat of a zirconium fire if the SFP were to lose the water they could spontaneously combust for a period of about 16 months after they load the fuel into the pool. He stated once the 16 month period hits, everything offsite can drop. He stated including the staffing. He stated it would go from having a really robust offsite response organization and offsite planning teams to nothing. He stated all of that will go away. He stated likely the company will demolish a lot of the building on site as fast as they can because that is where their tax burden is. He stated that there is a decommissioning sum of money that will be used to clean up the site and make it safe. He stated a lot of companies today, to get the liabilities off their books, have entered into agreements with companies that come and to the site and make an arrangement for the decommissioning fund. He stated the incentive is if the cleanup is completed under budget within the allotted time frame that company that did the cleanup gets to keep the balance of the decommissioned funds.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that there will still need to be personnel to monitor the rods, until they find a place to move them.

Commissioner Sutton stated that there will be a security agency monitoring. He stated once the rods are put in the dry cask on the pad they are there until somebody makes a decision as to what

will be done with them. He stated the rest of the site the only real contaminated stuff is the spent fuel pool, which will be there for quite some time and the reactor vessels, they will be removed.

Legislator LoBue questioned who will be responsible to unload the spent fuel rods.

Commissioner Sutton stated the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has control over some of it, the Department of Energy has control over the rest. He stated there is no definite plan for the disposition of nuclear fuel in the Country.

Chairman Gouldman questioned with the closing of such nuclear plants across the Country has the cost to close them trickled down to the residents of the specific area.

Commissioner Sutton stated that Entergy has announced they will put \$12 million dollars in a relief fund for local communities. He stated they donate 47% of the budget in terms of tax revenue in the Village of Buchanan. He stated they are in excess of 35-40% of the Henry Hudson School District. He stated that Entergy supports a tremendous amount of community projects. He stated they are very good to the community. He stated he believes there will be an impact.

Legislator Jonke stated that he read the Governor's press release. He stated it sounded like it was more of a business decision versus a political conquest.

Commissioner Sutton stated he believes it is a little of both. He continued to explain the workings of the plant.

Bill Nulk President of the Putnam County Chamber and member of the Economic Development Corporation stated as Commissioner Sutton stated, there are many concerns with this announcement. He stated that the business community is concerned about reliable replacement of the energy source that will be lost when Indian Point is closed. He stated that they are not convinced that there will be a replacement in place. He stated so without a concrete plan and evidence that work is being done to be ready to roll over to a new source of reliable energy will make it very difficult to attract new business and retain the existing businesses. He stated the loss of significant income will have a wide spread impact on the communities and business etc. He stated that on behalf of the organizations he is representing tonight, he is requesting that the community leaders and elected officials stay attentive on the powers that be, the governor and whoever else to make sure that there is a reliable replacement is in place at the time of the actual closing of the Indian Point Plant.

Legislator LoBue stated that for this announcement to be made with no plan in place from the governor's office there is going to cause a real problem for everyone.

Legislator Castellano questioned when was the last nuclear power plant built.

Commissioner Sutton stated there are plans for smaller modular to be put in different places. He stated after the Fukushima Accident it put a hold on the plans for new plants. He stated all the accidents at nuclear power plants, with the exception of the incident at Fukushima, which was an

act of nature, with the component of human error, all of the other accidents were due to human error.

Legislator LoBue stated that she believes the percentage of energy which serves Putnam County could be obtained.

Commissioner Sutton stated he is not confident of that. He stated the answer is different based on who is asked the question.

Legislator Castellano stated that he believes the real concern will be the number of people who will be out of work and the trickle affect. He stated the economy will be impacted without a doubt.

Item #13 - Correspondence:

- a. **Re: Bicycle Safety/Putnam County Roadways/Signage/From: Commissioner Pena/FYI – Duly Noted**

- b. **Re: Jail Inmate Phone System & Expedited Bail by Credit Card Program/New York State Sheriff's Association, Inc./From: Executive Director Kehoe/FYI – Duly Noted**

Item #14 – Other Business - None

Item #15- Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:05 p.m., Chairman Gouldman made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk of The Legislature Diane Trabulsy.