

**AGENDA
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
TO BE HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512
Members: Chairwoman Nacerino, Legislators Jonke & Montgomery**

Wednesday

February 13, 2019

(Immediately following Protective Meeting at 6:30p.m.)

The meeting was called to Order at 7:25PM by Chairwoman Nacerino who requested that Legislator Jonke lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll Call Legislators Jonke, Montgomery and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

Item #3 - Approval/ Fund Transfer (19T020)/ To Cover Salary For Staff That is Filling in While Staff Member is on Maternity Leave/ Youth Bureau/ Commissioner Michael Piazza (also to be reviewed at Health Committee 2/21/19)

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that a total of \$8,760.10 is being transferred to cover the salary of staff that are filling in while a staff member is on maternity leave.

Youth Director Janeen Cunningham explained that a full time employee who handles the Mentoring and Youth Court Program is on maternity leave. She stated the purpose of this request is to move the funding from a full –time line to temp line.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned what is the anticipated length of time the individual will be out on maternity leave.

Youth Director Janeen Cunningham stated three (3) months. She stated the projected return date is April 1, 2019.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Meeting Fund Transfer (19T020)/ To Cover Salary For Staff That is Filling in While Staff Member is on Maternity Leave/ Youth Bureau; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Item #4 - Approval/ Fund Transfer (19T022)/ Combine Two (2) Part-Time CDL Drivers into One (1) Full-Time CDL Driver and cover for Medical Leave/ OSR (Office for Senior Resources) Director Michael Cunningham (also to be reviewed at Health Committee 2/21/19)

OSR Director Michal Cunningham stated currently there are two (2) Part-Time CDL Driver positions in the budget. He stated that the County has difficulty recruiting for Part-Time and substitute basis. He stated they would like to convert the two (2) Part-Time CDL Driver positions to a one (1) Full-Time CDL Driver position. He stated that will provide more operational flexibility as well.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated there is a second part to this request regarding coverage for someone out on Medical Leave, she requested Director Cunningham speak to that matter.

OSR Director Michal Cunningham stated there is a driver who will be out for a period of time. He stated by having this position as a Full-Time CDL Driver it will assist in backfilling and providing coverage while said employee is out.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Meeting Fund Transfer (19T022)/ Combine Two (2) Part-Time CDL Drivers into One (1) Full-Time CDL Driver and cover for Medical Leave; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #5 - Approval/ Request for Reclassification of Positions in Highways & Facilities Department/ Personnel Director Paul Eldridge

Commissioner Pena stated he and members of his staff have been working with Personnel Director Eldridge to create an organizational structure to meet the department's operational needs. He stated this requested proposal is part of that plan.

Personnel Director Eldridge stated they have recruited some maintenance workers who have terrific backgrounds and they have proved themselves over a period of time. He stated one of the Reclassifications is an HVAC Technician. He stated currently the County only has one (1) HVAC Technician. He stated the other positions are a Maintenance Electrician and an Assistant Maintenance Mason II.

Chairperson Nacerino stated that this is a matter that has been discussed for some time. She stated it was expressed that the goals were to improve efficiencies within the Highway Department. She stated that she has respect for Department Heads who look to see how they can improve efficiencies within their departments. She stated that the Legislature relies on the recommendations from the Department Heads because they are the ones who see the day to day operations of their department. She stated in this case it is important to keep the tradesmen in competitive salaries and keep the continuity and efficiency of personnel. She stated that she is very supportive of this request.

Chairperson Nacerino made a motion to approve the Reclassification of Positions in Highways & Facilities Department; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval/ Fund Transfer (19T026)/ Funding Required for the Upgrade of Three (3) Highways & Facilities Positions/ Commissioner Fred Pena (this fund transfer is related to the above reclassification request)

Chairperson Nacerino stated there is no fiscal impact for 2019. She stated the fiscal impact for 2020 is not yet determined.

Chairperson Nacerino made a motion to approve Fund Transfer (19T026)/ Funding Required for the Upgrade of Three (3) Highways & Facilities Positions; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval/ Confirmation of Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell's Appointments:

Chairwoman Nacerino spoke to each of the County Executive's appointments. She stated that each of these County Employees does a tremendous job in their perspective roles.

a) County Attorney Jennifer S. Bumgarner

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of County Attorney Jennifer S. Bumgarner; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

b) Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Kenneth W. Clair, Jr.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Kenneth W. Clair, Jr.; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

c) Commissioner of Finance William J. Carlin, Jr.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner of Finance William J. Carlin, Jr.; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

d) Commissioner of Planning, Development and Public Transportation Sandra Fusco

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner of Planning, Development and Public Transportation Sandra Fusco; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

e) Commissioner of Health Dr. Michael J. Nesheiwat

Legislator Montgomery stated that she likes that many employees from the Health Department are present in the audience in their support of this appointment. She stated there was some conversation going on prior to this appointment. She stated for the record that she is in favor of Dr. Nesheiwat's appointment. She stated that she met with Dr. Nesheiwat and many of the County Department Heads. She stated everyone has been very generous with their time and assisting her in becoming familiar with all of the County Departments. She stated she supports all of these appointments, but due to the fact that there were some comments shared regarding the appointment of Dr. Nesheiwat, she wanted to state she is very confident that his responsibilities have changed allowing him to commit more time to the County. She stated that she looks forward to working with Dr. Nesheiwat in his role as Commissioner of Health. She stated many of the programs in said department are programs she would like to have brought to Philipstown and Putnam Valley.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated she supports the comments made by Legislator Montgomery in regards to the level of expertise and dedication Dr. Nesheiwat brings and will continue to bring to Putnam County. She stated for clarification Dr. Nesheiwat is no longer a practicing physician in a private practice. He will be devoting his time to the Commissioner of Health position.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner of Health Dr. Michael J. Nesheiwat; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

f) Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

g) Director of Office for Senior Resources Michael J. Cunningham

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of Director of Office for Senior Resources Michael J. Cunningham; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

h) Director of Purchasing Alessandro Mazzotta

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to approve the appointment of Purchasing Alessandro Mazzotta; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that she would like to thank all of the Department Heads who serve and are committed to the people of Putnam County. She stated the work they each do is appreciated and important. She stated and they are an asset to the Legislature.

Item #8 - FYI/ 2018 Year End - Accident Report & 2019 Accident Report – Duly Noted

Item #9 - Other Business

a) Liz Schevtchuk-Armstrong Reporter with Highlands Current stated she had a question in regard to Dr. Nesheiwat's appointment to Commissioner of Health. He is also a County Coroner and the Jail Physician. She stated the letter from the State, that was back-up documentation to his appointment, stated he would have to commit his time to the Commissioner of Health job. She questioned if he will be permitted to keep the Coroner and Jail Physician positions.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated it is her understanding that Dr. Nesheiwat will still be permitted to keep those jobs. She stated that this was vetted through the State, and they are very well aware of this matter, to the best of her knowledge. She stated his other positions with the County did not come into play. She stated the other responsibilities do not overlap his day to day responsibility as the Commissioner of Health. She explained the Jail Physician job is a Saturday only commitment. She questioned if Personnel Director Eldridge had any other information he would like to add to this discussion.

Personnel Director Eldridge stated Chairwoman Nacerino has said all that he would say on this matter.

Legislator Montgomery stated that there are three (3) Coroners in Putnam County to provide coverage.

Item #10 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:50 PM Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn;
Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.