

Legislator Albano stated that we continue to make Tilly Foster Farm a destination place and income producing property. He stated that, ideally, the goal is for it to cover itself and to not cost the taxpayers any money. He stated that the improvements that we are doing are well justified when you are looking into the future with the money that the Farm generates.

Legislator Jonke thanked County Executive Odell and her Administration for their hard work that went into this budget. He stated that he was pleased to know that there would be no layoffs in the 2021 Budget.

Legislator Nacerino thanked County Executive Odell and her Administration who worked in earnest to produce a sound and barebones budget under these fiscal restraints. She stated that it certainly was not an easy task to do. She stated that she looks forward to vetting the budget through our Committee meetings throughout the month.

Legislator Gouldman thanked the County Executive and her staff for putting together this budget. He stated that he was looking forward to reviewing the budget line by line.

Legislator Sullivan also thanked the County Executive and her Administration for putting together a fiscally prudent and good budget. He explained that it is almost a flat budget compared to last year's budget with an increase of only \$477,000. He stated that it is lowest budget to budget spending increase since 2011. He stated that they are certainly aware of all the challenges everyone is facing because of the COVID-19 crisis. He stated that the sales tax revenue projection was reduced by almost 10% from what was actually received in 2019. He stated that this was a very conservative measure. He stated that none of the outside agencies were cut as they remained at level funding. He stated that a lot of smart decisions were made during a very difficult time.

Legislator Sayegh thanked the County Executive and all the Department Heads for all their hard work in creating this lean budget. She believed that this County has done a fantastic job throughout the years in budgeting and sound finance practices throughout. She stated that the County recently received an excellent financial rating, saying that we are well equipped to handle the difficulties brought with this pandemic. She hoped that it will be less painful for Putnam County because of the tight budgeting practices we have adhered to over the years. She believed that Putnam County was doing well at looking at each department and consolidating and finding efficiencies. She believed it was about time that we address the consolidation of Dispatch to one (1) operation center that not only serves as saving money, but also brings better services having one (1) point of operation. She explained the difficult times for everyone. She looked forward to going through the budget line by line with the taxpayers in mind hoping to trim a little more.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that this has been a challenging budget due to COVID-19 and she wanted to thank County Executive Odell, her Administration and Department Heads. She stated that she is looking forward to reviewing the budget this month and was also happy to see that there were no layoffs for 2021.

There being no further business, at 7:25 P.M., Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.