

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
HELD IN THE
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Tuesday May 6, 2025 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairwoman Sayegh who requested Legislator Birmingham lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Legislator Russo lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Russo, Ellner, Jonke, Birmingham and Chairwoman Sayegh were present. Legislators Addonizio and Crowley were absent.

PROCLAMATIONS

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Jonke presented the “Sale of Buddy Poppies” proclamation to Joan Russell and Carol Russel of the VFW Auxiliary Post #1374.

SUPPORT OF THE 2025 SALE OF BUDDY POPPIES

WHEREAS, the annual sale of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has been officially recognized and endorsed by government leaders since 1922; and

WHEREAS, V.F.W. Buddy Poppies are assembled by disabled veterans and the proceeds of this worthy fundraising campaign are used exclusively for the benefit of disabled and needy veterans, and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans; and

WHEREAS, the basic purpose of the annual sale of Buddy Poppies by Veterans of Foreign Wars is eloquently reflected in the desire to “Honor the Dead by Helping the Living”; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby urge the citizens of this community to recognize the merits of this cause by contributing generously to its support through the purchase of Buddy Poppies on the day set aside for the distribution of these symbols of appreciation for the sacrifices of our honored dead; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we urge all patriotic citizens to wear a Buddy Poppy as mute evidence of our gratitude to the men and women of this country who have risked their lives in defense of the freedom which we continue to enjoy as American citizens.

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Ellner who presented the “Youth Bureau High School Senior Recognition Day” proclamation to Putnam County Youth Bureau Executive Director Janeen Cunningham and several High School Seniors present at the meeting who were involved in the program.

**PUTNAM COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION DAY
MAY 6, 2025**

WHEREAS, Putnam County Youth Bureau Senior Recognition is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions young people make to our community every day of the year through volunteer service and service-learning; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County recognizes our youth as important community members, and values their unique skills, perspectives, and ideas, as they lead awareness, service, and advocacy activities; and

WHEREAS, Youth Bureau volunteers donate their time to programs such as Youth Court, Youth Forum, Youth Board, Teen-N-Kids Mentoring and a wide variety of service activities throughout Putnam County; and

WHEREAS, realizing the need for community involvement, the citizens of Putnam County are proud to unite in assisting our youth to achieve their goals and help them to develop good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments and achievements of these young citizens deserve the recognition and commendation of their community leaders; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim

May 6, 2025 as Putnam County Youth Bureau High School Senior Recognition Day and thank these high school seniors for their long-standing dedication and commitment to the Putnam County community.

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Russo who presented the “Global Youth Traffic Safety” proclamation to Putnam County Youth Bureau Executive Director Janeen Cunningham, the Youth Bureau Staff and several of the students who were involved in the program.

MAY 2025 AS GLOBAL YOUTH TRAFFIC SAFETY MONTH

WHEREAS, May has been designated as Global Youth Traffic Safety Month to raise awareness of safety issues associated with teen driving and encourage and empower youth to develop and lead traffic safety education projects, support law enforcement and actively promote legislation to protect youth passengers and teen drivers; and

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, traffic-related crashes are the leading cause of death for youth in the United States. Young drivers from the ages of 16 to 19 years old are three times more likely to be in a fatal car crash than drivers over the age of 20. In addition to summertime, a teen driver’s risk of a fatal crash increases with each additional passenger, at night, on the weekends, and during his or her first months of driving; and

WHEREAS, Considering drivers in this age group only account for four percent of drivers on the roadways yet are involved in eight percent of all crashes on the road today, and the need for intense effort on youth traffic safety is apparent; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee is endorsing the Putnam County Youth Bureau’s initiatives to spread awareness and ensure that youth are equipped with the information they need to make safe decisions while driving. Youth can drive safer by putting away their phones when they drive, buckling up, choosing the safest route available, only driving with those with whom they feel safe and by never getting into a vehicle with someone they suspect has been drinking; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim May 2025 as Global Youth Traffic Safety Month.

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized legislator Montgomery who presented the “Mental Health Awareness” proclamation to Commissioner of Social Services Sara Servadio and Mental Health Director Paul Tang.

MAY 2025 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, mental health symptoms and diagnoses affect millions of New York Residents translating to 1 in 4 New Yorkers who have symptoms of a mental health disorder; and

WHEREAS, some populations are more at risk of certain mental health diagnoses, mental health symptoms can affect anyone regardless of their age, gender, race, religion or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, four million children and adolescents in the United States suffer from a serious mental health diagnosis that causes significant functional impairments at home, at school and with peers; and

WHEREAS, the disease burden or total cost of mental health diagnoses exceeds that caused by all cancers; and

WHEREAS, having a mental health diagnosis is the number one risk factor for suicide and about 90% of individuals who die by suicide meet criteria for a mental health diagnosis, oftentimes, it is undiagnosed or untreated; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County Residents report a decreasing perception that there are sufficient quality mental health providers, high levels of pandemic impact on self-reported mental health, increasing social isolation, and increasing frequency of drug use for non-medical purposes demonstrate an overall increased burden of mental health challenges; and

WHEREAS, about a third of all people experiencing mental health diagnoses and about half of people living with severe mental illnesses also experience substance misuse making access to effective treatment even more difficult; and

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month and along with Putnam County Department of Mental Health and all mental health providers in Putnam County encourage all residents to challenge their own stigma about mental health, learn more about local resources and reach out for help as needed.

Chairwoman Sayegh presented the “Older Americans Month” proclamation to Office of Senior Resources Director Marlene Barrett, Office of Senior Resources Deputy Director Kevin Monaghan and Senior Caseworker Yvonne Niles.

MAY 2025 AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH “FLIP THE SCRIPT ON AGING”

WHEREAS, May is Older Americans Month, a time for us to recognize and honor Putnam County’s growing number of older adults who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the increasingly active roles they play in today’s society; and

WHEREAS, older Americans improve our communities with past contributions and future participation; and

WHEREAS, communities benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and live independently; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County can work to build better opportunities for our older

residents by:

- Transforming how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging.
- Encouraging individuals and communities to dispel misconceptions of aging.
- Honoring the contributions of older adults and helping them explore the many opportunities for staying active and engaged as they age.
- Highlighting opportunities for purpose, exploration, and the connection that comes with aging; and

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim May 2025 to be Older Americans Month with the theme of “Flip the Script on Aging”. This theme serves to highlight aging trends and emphasizes the profound impact of meaningful interactions on the well-being and health of older adults in our community. We urge every resident to recognize the contributions of our older citizens and join efforts to reaffirm our commitment in serving to build better opportunities for our older Americans to stay active and engaged.

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Gouldman who presented the “Putnam Valley High School Cheerleading Team” proclamation to Putnam Valley High School Cheerleading Team Coach Kelly Wilson and the Cheerleading Team.

PUTNAM VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADING TEAM

WHEREAS, the hard work, dedication, sportsmanship, talent, and exceptional chemistry of the Putnam Valley High School Cheerleading Team led them to place 3rd in the 2025 New York State Championship on March 8th in Binghamton, NY; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam Valley High School Cheerleading Team exceeded the ambitious goals they set for themselves through an undefeated regular season phenomenal competitive season. The team showcased their hard work and spirit by securing their third Game Day Section 1 Championship and then going on to place 2nd at the Game Day State Championship in Troy, NY; and

WHEREAS, determined to leave it all on the mat competing in the Class C Division at the New York State Championship, the Putnam Valley High School Cheerleading Team ended their outstanding season taking home 3rd place; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature hereby recognize the talent and commitment each Cheerleader and coach of the Putnam Valley High School Cheerleading Team has poured into the team throughout this season, leading to their outstanding and well-deserved accomplishment!

**Item #4 – Acceptance of Minutes – Organizational Mtg – January 7, 2025
Regular Mtg – March 4, 2025**

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #5 – Correspondence
a) County Auditor

There were two (2) Correction of Taxes which were Items #6s and #6t on the agenda.

Item #6 – Pre-filed resolutions:

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
(Chairman Jonke, Legislators Addonizio & Gouldman)

Item #6a - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A030) – Health Department – DPW – Reclassification was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Jonke, Chairman of the Personnel Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #111

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A030) – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – DPW – RECLASSIFICATION

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has requested a budgetary amendment (25A030) to transfer payroll and corresponding fringes from the Health Department to the DPW budget; and

WHEREAS, said transfer will cover DPW expenses as of 2/5/25 through 9/30/25, inclusive of payout and vacation accruals; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Appropriations:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 10144000 51000 10112 | Personnel Services | 89,852 |
| 10144000 58002 10112 | Social Security | 6,874 |
| 10144000 58007 | Life Insurance | <u>9,987</u> |
| | | 106,713 |

Decrease Appropriations:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 12401000 51000 12102 | Personnel Services | 75,529 |
| 12401000 51000 12102 | Personnel Services | 14,323 |
| 12401000 58002 | Social Security | 6,874 |
| 12401000 58007 | Life Insurance | <u>9,987</u> |
| | | 106,713 |

Decrease Revenue:

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 12401000 434011 | St. Aid Public Health | 38,417 |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|

Decrease Contingency:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 10199000 54980 | General Contingencies | 38,417 |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------|

2025 Fiscal Impact - \$38,417

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6b - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A031) – District Attorney – Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant (DCJS) Award – Partnership Initiative & Merit Bonuses

ADAs/Management was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

Legislator Jonke requested that the question be divided.

Legislator Birmingham requested that Legislator Jonke specify which item would be spoken about first, because there is one that he will need to recuse himself on.

Legislator Jonke stated that he would like to divide the Partnership Initiative Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant from the Merit Bonuses. He stated that he would like to vote on the grant for the Partnership Initiative first.

Chairwoman Sayegh made a motion to accept the additional for Item #6b; seconded by Legislator Jonke. By Poll Vote: Six Ayes. One Abstention – Legislator Birmingham. Legislators Addonizio and Crowley were absent. Motion Carries.

Legislator Birmingham stated that because his firm represents one of the municipalities receiving the Partnership Initiative Grant, he would like to recuse himself and would step out of the room.

(Original resolution on Agenda):

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A031) – DISTRICT ATTORNEY – CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCOVERY REFORM GRANT (DCJS) AWARD – PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE & MERIT BONUSES ADAs/MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2024, the Putnam County District Attorney received notification from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) of a grant award, for a maximum amount of 266,192; and

WHEREAS, funding is contingent upon submission by the County, and subsequent DCJS approval of a Discovery Reform Funding Plan; and

WHEREAS, the grant funding is to support local law enforcement agencies with expenses related to the implementation of discovery and pretrial reforms that took effect January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, all funding provided is intended to support estimated costs incurred during the SFY 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney has submitted a budgetary amendment (25A031) to account for said grant award; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Appropriations:

| | | |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
| 10116500 54936 10171 | District Attorney – Partnership Initiative Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant | 35,000 |
| 10116500 51000 (999) | District Attorney – Pers. Serv. Merit Bonuses ADAs/Management | 56,597 |
| 10116500 58002 (999) | District Attorney FICA | 4,330 |
| 101999000 54980 | General Contingencies | <u>20,265</u> |
| | | 116,192 |

Increase Estimated Revenues:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| 10116500 430890 10171 | State Aid – DCJS Reform Grant FY24-25 | 98,692 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 13311000 430890 10171 | State Aid – DCJS Reform Grant FY24-25 | <u>17,500</u> |
| | | 116,192 |

2025 Fiscal Impact – (20,265)
2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

RESOLUTION #112

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A031) – DISTRICT ATTORNEY – CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCOVERY REFORM GRANT (DCJS) AWARD – PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE & MERIT BONUSES ADAs/MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2024, the Putnam County District Attorney received notification from the New York Stated Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) of a grant award, for a maximum amount of 266,192; and

WHEREAS, funding is contingent upon submission by the County, and subsequent DCJS approval of a Discovery Reform Funding Plan; and

WHEREAS, the grant funding is to support local law enforcement agencies with expenses related to the implementation of discovery and pretrial reforms that took effect January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, all funding provided is intended to support estimated costs incurred during the SFY 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney has submitted a budgetary amendment (25A031) to account for said grant award; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee had reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; and

WHEREAS, during the May 6, 2025 Full Legislative Meeting, the Legislature divided the question and approved budgetary amendment (25A031a) which was provided by the Commissioner of Finance and only pertained to the Partnership Initiative Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant and General Contingencies; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Appropriations:

| | | |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
| 10116500 54936 10171 | District Attorney – Partnership Initiative Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant | 35,000 |
| 101999000 54980 | General Contingencies | <u>20,265</u> |
| | | 55,265 |

Increase Estimated Revenues:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 10116500 430890 10171 | State Aid – DCJS Reform Grant FY24-25 | 37,765 |
| 13311000 430890 10171 | State Aid – DCJS Reform Grant FY24-25 | <u>17,500</u> |
| | | 55,265 |

2025 Fiscal Impact – (20,265)
2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: SIX AYES. ONE RECUSAL – LEGISLATOR BIRMINGHAM.
LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Legislator Jonke made a motion to table the Merit Bonuses to the Personnel Committee; seconded by Chairwoman Sayegh.

Legislator Birmingham apologized and stated that when this came up during the Audit Committee meeting, he stepped out of the room for both portions of this item because they were not split at the time. He stated that he needed more information and believed that it should be discussed in executive session.

Legislator Montgomery questioned what information Legislator Birmingham was looking for.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that we were looking for the budget lines. She explained that, per the Putnam County Charter, the Legislature's duty is to fix by resolution all salaries in the County. She stated that we need to know what personnel lines this would be moving into.

Legislator Montgomery explained that they were bonuses, not personnel lines, and did not have legacy costs. She stated that she was taking the confidential memorandum from the County Attorney into consideration too.

District Attorney Robert Tendy stated that he did not receive a confidential memorandum from the County Attorney.

Legislator Birmingham believed that further discussion should be held in executive session. He stated that on the motion to table, he would vote no because he would like to go into executive session to discuss what was in the memorandum.

Senior Deputy County Attorney confirmed that it would be fine.

District Attorney Robert Tendy mentioned again that he did not see the memorandum.

At 7:32 P.M., Chairwoman Sayegh made a motion to go into executive session; seconded by Legislators Birmingham and Jonke. All in favor.

Chairwoman Sayegh invited District Attorney Tendy to join them.

At 7:50 P.M., Chairwoman Sayegh made a motion to come out of executive session; seconded by Legislator Birmingham. All in favor.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that no decisions were made in executive session.

Legislator Jonke stated that his original motion was to table this item to the next Personnel Committee meeting. He stated that he wanted to amend that motion, and he made a motion to table the item to the May Audit Committee mtg; seconded by Chairwoman Sayegh.

By Poll Vote to amend the motion: Seven Ayes. Legislators Addonizio & Crowley were absent. Motion Carries.

Chairwoman Sayegh called for a Roll Call Vote on the motion to table the item for the Merit Bonuses to the May Audit meeting.

By Roll Call Vote: Seven Ayes. Legislators Addonizio & Crowley were absent. Motion Carries.

Item #6c - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T073) – Sheriff’s Office – February Jail Overtime Costs was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #113

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T073) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – FEBRUARY JAIL OVERTIME COSTS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a fund transfer (25T073) to cover Jail General Overtime Costs for the month of February due to eight (8) Correction Officer vacancies, and one (1) Officer on 12-week Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA); and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| 10315000 51000 10105 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 6,853 |
| 10315000 51000 10115 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 6,968 |
| 10315000 51000 10121 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 4,963 |
| 10315000 51000 10131 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,008 |
| 10315000 51000 10147 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 6,738 |
| 10315000 51000 10153 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 4,793 |
| 10315000 51000 10156 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | <u>4,793</u> |
| | | 42,116 |

Increase:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 10315000 51093 | Jail General Overtime | 42,116 |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------|

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6d - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T075) – Sheriff’s Office – January Jail Overtime Costs was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #114

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T075) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – JANUARY JAIL OVERTIME COSTS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a fund transfer (25T075) to cover Jail Medical Services Overtime Costs for the month of January due to eight (8) Correction Officer vacancies, and one (1) Officer on 12-week Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA); and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 10315000 51000 10105 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,538 |
| 10315000 51000 10115 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 8,013 |
| 10315000 51000 10121 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 5,707 |
| 10315000 51000 10131 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 8,059 |
| 10315000 51000 10147 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,749 |
| 10315000 51000 10153 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 5,512 |
| 10315000 51000 10156 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 5,512 |
| 10315000 58002 | Jail General FICA | <u>3,679</u> |
| | | 51,769 |

Increase:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 10008000 51093 | Jail Medical Services Overtime | 48,090 |
| 10008000 58002 | Jail Medical Services FICA | <u>3,679</u> |
| | | 51,769 |

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6e - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T076) – Sheriff’s Office – March Jail Overtime Costs was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #115

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T076) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – MARCH JAIL OVERTIME COSTS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a fund transfer (25T076) to cover Jail General Overtime Costs for the month of March due to eight (8) Correction Officer vacancies, and one (1) Officer on 12-week Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA); and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it
RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 10315000 51000 10105 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,196 |
| 10315000 51000 10115 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,316 |
| 10315000 51000 10121 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 5,211 |
| 10315000 51000 10131 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,358 |
| 10315000 51000 10147 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 7,075 |
| 10315000 51000 10153 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | 5,032 |
| 10315000 51000 10156 | Jail Personnel Correction Officer | <u>5,032</u> |
| | | 44,220 |

Increase:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------|
| 10315000 51093 | Jail General Overtime | 44,220 |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------|

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #6f - Approval – Budgetary Transfer (25T080) – District Attorney – Reclassification was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #116

**APPROVAL – BUDGETARY TRANSFER (25T080) – DISTRICT ATTORNEY –
RECLASSIFICATION**

WHEREAS, the Personnel Department conducted a job analysis review of a clerical position in the District Attorney's office; and

WHEREAS, the review was initiated on February 3, 2025, and the Personnel Department determined that the Senior Office Assistant position (10116500 51000 10120) be reclassified as Principal Office Assistant Legal, Grade 12 Step 3 position (10116500 51000 10135), with a salary of \$64,589 effective 3/1/25; and

WHEREAS, there is a savings of \$16,813 from a temporary vacant position which will be utilized, resulting in no extra cost to the County for 2025; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney has requested a budgetary transfer (25T080) to account for this reclassification; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfer be made:

Increase Appropriations:

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--------|
| 10116500 51000 (10135) | Personnel Services Principal Office Asst (Legal) | 53,945 |
|------------------------|---|--------|

Decrease Appropriations:

| | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------|
| 10116500 51000 (10120) | Personnel Services Sr. Office Assistant (Legal) | 50,613 |
| 10116500 51000 (10131) | Personnel Services Sr. Office Assistant (Legal) | <u>3,332</u> |
| | | 53,945 |

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – To Be Determined

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6g - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T081) – Health Department – Environmental Aide Position Reclassification was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #117

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T081) – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – ENVIRONMENTAL AIDE POSITION RECLASSIFICATION

WHEREAS, the Health Department was working to fill a non-competitive Environmental Health Aide position that has been vacated; and

WHEREAS, the Health Department has identified a current employee in the department to fill said position; and

WHEREAS, the request to begin the Environmental Health Aide position on Step 2 was approved on 9/13/24; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Director has requested a fund transfer (25T081) to adjust the budget in the Department of Environmental Protection to reflect the correct salary and fringes associated with the Environmental Health Aide Step 2 position; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------|
| 12022000 51000 (101) | Pers. – Vacant PH Sanitarian | 5,757 |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------|

Increase:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------|
| 12401002 51000 10050 (101) | Pers. – Environmental Health Aide Step 2 | 5,352 |
|----------------------------|---|-------|

12401002 58002 10050

FICA – DEP

405
5,757

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6h - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T088) – OSR – Reallocate Salaries Approved by Resolution #75 of 2025 was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #118

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T088) – OSR – REALLOCATE SALARIES APPROVED BY RESOLUTION #75 OF 2025

WHEREAS, the Director of Office for Senior Resources has requested a fund transfer (25T088) to reallocate salaries, approved by Resolution #75 of 2025, to the correct budget lines so they align with the grant they are charged to; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said fund transfer; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 10677200 51000 10110 | Driver | 53,146 |
| 10677200 51000 10159 | Nutrition Site Manager | 47,130 |
| 10677200 51000 10160 | Nutrition Site Manager | 53,983 |
| 10677200 51000 10161 | Nutrition Site Manager | 44,885 |
| 10677200 51000 10162 | Nutrition Services Manager | <u>84,050</u> |
| | | 283,194 |

Increase:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 10677200 51000 10136 | Driver | 53,146 |
| 10677200 51000 10129 | Nutrition Site Manager | 47,130 |
| 10677200 51000 10143 | Nutrition Site Manager | 53,983 |
| 10677200 51000 10144 | Nutrition Site Manager | 44,885 |
| 10677200 51000 10149 | Nutrition Services Manager | <u>84,050</u> |
| | | 283,194 |

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
(Chairman Jonke, Legislators Addonizio & Birmingham)

Item #6i - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A028) – Sheriff’s Office – Other Equipment and Education & Training was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Jonke, Chairman of the Protective Services Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #119

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A028) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – OTHER EQUIPMENT AND EDUCATION & TRAINING

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a budgetary amendment (25A028) to recognize revenue received from Century Arms Inc.; and

WHEREAS, \$4,000 will be used to replace outdated technologies in the Crime Scene Unit, and the remaining balance will be utilized to replenish the Narcotics Education & Training budget line which was drawn on to fund the Sheriff’s pistol permit fingerprinting account with the State; and

WHEREAS, the Protective Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Revenues:

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 32311000 427701 | Sheriff BCI – Miscellaneous | 9,000 |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|

Increase Expenses:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 32311000 52180 | Sheriff BCI – Other Equipment | 4,000 |
| 14311000 54640 | Narcotics – Education & Training | <u>5,000</u> |
| | | 9,000 |

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6j - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A029) – Sheriff’s Office – Insurance Recovery was next. On behalf of the members of the Protective Services Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #120

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A029) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – INSURANCE RECOVERY

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a budgetary amendment (25A029) to recognize reimbursement from NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal for damages to a 2023 Chevy Tahoe in the Sheriff’s Narcotics unit for an accident that occurred on December 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Protective Services Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Revenues:

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------|
| 14311000 426801 | Sheriff Narcotics – Insurance Recoveries | 18,679.53 |
|------------------------|---|------------------|

Increase Expenses:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| 14311000 54370 | Sheriff Narcotics – Automotive | 18,679.53 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.**

HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

(Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Ellner & Russo)

Item #6k - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A034) – Social Services – NYS Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment Allocation was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Ellner, member of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Chairwoman Addonizio and Legislator Russo, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #121

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A034) – SOCIAL SERVICES – NYS SHELTER ARREARS EVICTION FORESTALLMENT ALLOCATION

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Social Services has requested a budgetary amendment (25A034) to amend the 2025 DSS budget to include Putnam’s NYS Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment allocation (24-LCM-12) received from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) in the amount of \$13,837; and

WHEREAS, the allocation will provide vital shelter arrears assistance to help eligible households retain permanent housing; and

WHEREAS, allocations may be used to support obligations from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, and must be claimed by February 13, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee and the Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

GENERAL FUND:

Increase Appropriations:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 10101000 54989 10231 | Miscellaneous | 13,837 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|

Increase Revenue:

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 10101000 436101 10231 | Adm. Social Services | 13,837 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
(Chairman Birmingham, Legislators Ellner & Gouldman)

Item #6L - Approval – Appointment – Region 3 Fish & Wildlife Management Board was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Birmingham, Chairman of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Birmingham moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery welcomed Mr. Tozzi who she believed would be a great addition to the Region 3 Fish & Wildlife Management Board. She also recognized the years of dedicated service of Ray Merlotto to the Fish & Wildlife and Sportsmen federations throughout Putnam County. She thanked him for his service.

Chairwoman Sayegh thanked all of our volunteers who step up for these positions.

RESOLUTION #122

APPROVAL – APPOINTMENT – REGION 3 FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLVED, that Michael G. Tozzi, Town of Carmel, be appointed as Sportsman Representative for a two (2) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this appointment complies with any requirements to file an Oath of Office pursuant to the New York State Public Officers Law.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6m - Approval – Re-Appointment – Putnam County Board of Ethics was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Birmingham moved the following:

RESOLUTION #123

APPROVAL – RE-APPOINTMENT – PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the County Executive, the Putnam County Legislature confirms the following re-appointment to the Putnam County Board of Ethics:

Barbara Scuccimarra, for a three (3) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2027; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this re-appointment complies with any requirements to file an Oath of Office pursuant to the New York State Public Officers Law.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6n - Approval – Amendment of Legislative Manual – Live Streaming Legislative Sessions and Public Hearings was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Legislators Ellner and Gouldman, Legislator Birmingham moved the following:

Legislator Ellner believed that livestreaming was great, and it was something we should do, however he had concerns about seeing more and more Legislators actively communicating on their cell phones which he believed was a result of the livestreaming.

Legislator Montgomery stated that most modern day Legislatures have screens on either side of the dais where they can interact with the public. She believed that any opportunity to interact with the public when we are doing public business is not a problem.

RESOLUTION #124

APPROVAL - AMENDMENT OF LEGISLATIVE MANUAL - LIVE STREAMING LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature recognizes the vital importance of fostering transparency, enhancing public access, and encouraging community engagement within the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, advancements in communication and technology provide invaluable opportunities for the residents of Putnam County to remain informed and actively involved in the decisions affecting their community, regardless of their ability to attend meetings in person; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature is committed to the principles of accountability and openness, ensuring that the public has full access to the discussions, decisions, and actions of its elected representatives; and

WHEREAS, live streaming of legislative sessions and public hearings can help promote civic participation, improve government transparency, and increase public trust in the legislative process; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby expresses its strong support for the live streaming of all legislative sessions and public hearings as outlined in this resolution, to ensure that all citizens of Putnam County have the opportunity to observe and engage with the legislative process, whether in person or remotely, excluding matters heard in executive session; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature directs the implementation of the following live streaming procedures to maximize public access and participation in the legislative process by incorporating the following as a new Rule in the Legislative Manual:

RULE 34 – LIVE STREAMING LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Live Streaming of Legislative Sessions

1. **Live Streaming Availability:**
All regular and special legislative sessions will, to the greatest extent possible, be broadcast live, making use of platforms such as the County website or YouTube.
2. **Public Access and Recording:**
Sessions will, to the greatest extent possible, be fully accessible online, with recordings available for on-demand viewing to ensure continued public access to legislative activities and deliberations.

B. Committee Sessions and Public Hearings

1. **Live Streaming of Committee Sessions and Public Hearings:**
Committee sessions and public hearings will also be, to the greatest extent possible, live streamed.

C. Review and Feedback

1. **Public Input:**
The Legislature encourages ongoing feedback from the public on the live streaming process and will periodically review how the program can be improved for maximum effectiveness and accessibility.

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature, with the assistance of the Director of Information Technology as requested, is hereby authorized to implement this initiative and ensure that all legislative sessions and public hearings are broadcast live and archived for public access; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (Chairman Ellner, Legislators Crowley & Jonke)

Item #6o - Adoption SEQRA Negative Declaration – Approval Lease Agreement – Approval Land Use Zoning Exemption for the Facility – Cell Tower Town of Carmel Tax Map #64.14-1-8 (Homeland Towers, LLC – PC Golf Course, 161 Hill Street). Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Ellner, Chairman of the Physical Services Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #125

ADOPTION SEQRA NEGATIVE DECLARATION - APPROVAL LEASE AGREEMENT - APPROVAL LAND USE ZONING EXEMPTION FOR THE FACILITY - CELL TOWER TOWN OF CARMEL TM # 64.14-1-8 (Homeland Towers, LLC – PC Golf Course, 161 Hill Street)

WHEREAS, the County of Putnam is the owner of the property located at 161 Hill Street, Mahopac, New York a/k/a Town of Carmel TM# 64.14-1-8 a/k/a the Putnam County Golf Course (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the County desires to use a minor portion of the Property for the installation of a 160 foot cellular tower, with the associated equipment shelter, backup generators, and telecommunications equipment; and

WHEREAS, Homeland Towers, LLC (hereinafter “Homeland”), desires to use a portion of the Property to install the support structure and compound area necessary to accommodate the emergency telecommunications coverage needs of various County Emergency Service Departments, in addition to providing the capacity for the collocation of private public utility wireless communications facilities in order to close significant gaps in reliable wireless service that exist in the vicinity of the Property within the County, and avoid the proliferation of towers; and

WHEREAS, the County and Homeland desire to enter into a public-private partnership by entering into a lease agreement (hereinafter the “Agreement”), a copy of which is attached hereto as Schedule “A”, for the purpose of constructing a 160 foot tower and supporting equipment (the “Facility”) with County emergency service antennas, and which shall provide for the collocation of commercial wireless communication facilities including antennas and related equipment on the Facility all of which shall be situated on or within a 2,611 (apx.) square foot lease parcel; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive, pursuant to the authority granted under section 31-22 of the Putnam County Code, has entered into negotiations with Homeland regarding the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 31-22 of the Putnam County Code, the County Executive has requested that the Putnam County Legislature approve the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Facility will provide and facilitate wireless telecommunication services essential for responding to accidents, natural disasters, and for reporting medical emergencies and other dangers such as potential criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement between the County and Homeland is for surplus County property not presently being utilized by the County and not anticipated to be needed by the County over the term of the Agreement other than for the placement of County antennas and equipment at the Facility; and

WHEREAS, the installation of a wireless communications facility and the approval of lease agreement thereof has been determined to be a SEQR Unlisted Action in accordance with the 6 NYCRR Part 617; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of SEQRA, a full Environmental Assessment form (“EAF”), along with a natural resources inventory including wetlands and endangered species, a Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) aeronautical evaluation, an antenna site Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) RF justification report, and a visual resource evaluation were prepared to describe the potential environmental impacts associated with the project; and

WHEREAS, that unless otherwise objected to, the Putnam County Legislature previously declared, pursuant to Resolution #322 of 2024, their intent to serve as “lead agency” in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.2; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Department of Planning, on behalf of the Putnam County Legislature, circulated said notice to serve as lead agency along with the full EAF and above-noted supporting documentation to all involved and/or interested agencies on December 20, 2024 for the required minimum thirty (30) day period; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has received no objection with respect to its intent to act as lead agency with respect to the implementation of SEQRA, and therefore, assumes Lead Agency status herein with respect to this project; and

WHEREAS, based upon a careful review of the action as a whole, the EAF, supporting documents, and the criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.7(c), and after considering all of the public input that has been received, as well as concerns received from other involved and/or interested agencies which have been addressed and/or mitigated, the Putnam County Legislature, as Lead Agency, has determined that the project will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized under New York State Law that counties are accorded certain “immunity” from local zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, the leading New York Court of Appeals decision, Matter of County of Monroe v City of Rochester, 72 N.Y. 2d 338, 533 N.Y.S. 2d 702 (“Monroe”), establishes the “balancing of interests” approach for determining whether a project should be accorded immunity from local zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, Monroe permits the County to determine whether or not it is in the public interest to subject a particular project serving governmental interests to local zoning; and

WHEREAS, Monroe discusses the following nine (9) factors for consideration when balancing the interests of the public and the governmental entity:

- 1) The nature and scope of the instrumentality seeking immunity;
- 2) The encroaching governmental entity’s legislative grant of authority;
- 3) The kind of function or land use involved;
- 4) The effect local land use regulation would have upon the enterprise concerned;
- 5) Alternative locations for the facility in less restrictive zoning areas;
- 6) The impact upon legitimate local interest;
- 7) Alternative methods of providing the proposed improvement;
- 8) The extent of the public interest to be served by the improvements; and
- 9) The intergovernmental participation in the project development process and an opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the County has analyzed each of the foregoing considerations to determine whether the Facility should be exempt from the local municipal zoning regulations and has determined that the Facility as proposed, should be exempt from such zoning regulations; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that after duly noticed public hearings upon the evidence adduced there as, it is found and determined that based upon a review of the foregoing considerations, the Putnam County Legislature has adopted the following findings of fact:

- 1) Pursuant to section 3 of New York State County Law, the County is a municipal corporation of the State of New York. Among other things, the County provides emergency and public safety protection to its residents. For example, the

County operates an EMS department pursuant to section 223-b of New York State County Law and a Sheriff's department pursuant to Article 17 of New York State County Law. Such departments rely heavily on wireless communications to protect the public health, safety and welfare. Reliable wireless communications are a critical resource that is necessary for the County to provide emergency and public safety protection. Therefore, the County is purely public in nature and is a governmental entity that provides an essential public service.

2) The Facility will be located within the municipal border of the Town of Carmel (the "Town") and within the County of Putnam. Under Section 31-22 of the Putnam County Code, the County has authority to lease surplus County owned lands. Pursuant to Section 3 of the New York State County Law, the County is a municipal corporation comprising the inhabitants within its boundaries and formed for the purpose of exercising such powers and discharging such duties of local government and administration of public affairs as may be imposed or conferred upon it by law.

3) The function or land use that is contemplated by the County under the lease agreement is a wireless communications facility (the "Facility"). The Facility will consist of a 160-foot tower and compound to support the communication needs of various County departments and to provide for the collocation of antennas operated by wireless public utility telecommunications service providers. Such collocation opportunities will decrease the proliferation of towers. The Facility will serve the public interest in that it allows the County public service and emergency service entities the ability to effectively communicate through the County's wireless systems. The Facility will also offer the general public and the County emergency service entities a wireless communications alternative particularly well suited for responding to accidents, natural disasters, and for reporting medical emergencies and other dangers such as potential criminal activity. The County notes that federally licensed wireless services such as Verizon Wireless, have been deemed to be essential public services by both New York State and Federal Courts. See, *Cellular One v. Rosenberg*, 82 NY2d 364 (1993), and *Cellular Telephone Company v. Town of Oyster Bay*, 166 V.3d 490 (2d Cir. 1999).

4) Imposing local land use regulations on the proposed Facility would have the effect of unreasonably delaying an essential public need for immediate and effective emergency response and reliable wireless communications. It is the public policy of the United States "to make available so far as possible, to all people of the United States a rapid, efficient, nationwide and world-wide wire and radio communication service with adequate facilities at reasonable charges, for the purpose of national defense, for the purpose of promoting safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communication...[.]" 47 U.S.C §151. The project will also further the goals and objectives established by Congress under the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 is "an unusually important legislative enactment," establishing national public policy in favor of encouraging "rapid deployment of new telecommunications technologies (emphasis supplied)." *Reno v. ACLU*, 521 U.S. 844, 17 S. Ct.2329, 2337-38, 138 L.Ed.2d 874 (1997). The federal

Telecommunications Act of 1996 builds upon the regulatory framework for commercial mobile (radio) services which Congress established in 1993. Indeed, since 1993, it has been the policy of the United States “to foster the growth and development of mobile services that, by their nature, operate without regard to state lines as an integral part of the national telecommunication infrastructure.” H.R. Rep. No. 103-111, 103d Cong., 1st sess 260 (1993) (emphasis added). In 1999, Pub. L 106-81, 113 Stat. 1286 (the “911 Act”). The “911 Act” empowered the FCC to develop the regulations to make wireless 911 services available to all Americans. The express purpose of the Act, as articulated by Congress, was “to encourage and facilitate the prompt deployment throughout the United States of seamless, ubiquitous, and reliable end-to-end infrastructure for communications, including wireless communications, to meet the Nation’s public safety and other communications need” (emphasis added).

5) There are no alternative locations for the Facility in less restrictive zoning areas as detailed in the alternative site analysis as such facilities are permitted in all Town zoning districts by conditional use permit. Moreover, the proposed location for the Facility at the subject Property is ideal in order to minimize aesthetic impacts to the greatest extent feasible based on the large size of the property and distance from neighboring uses, as demonstrated by the Visual Resource Evaluation. The Property already supports municipal operations and therefore, the location of the Facility on County property will not be detrimental to the community. By controlling the location of the Facility on County property, the County can ensure that there is adequate infrastructure in place for the location of emergency communication antennas, while controlling the proliferation of new towers. Moreover, the Facility is part of an overall County wide wireless communications network. The location of the Facility fits within the existing County wide network and remedies gaps in service that currently hamper emergency services communications.

6) The Facility will not have an adverse environmental or other impact on the public because the Facility will be sited on a wooded area of the Property. The Facility will benefit the public interest by providing essential services and by producing revenue for the County, while also providing critical infrastructure for County emergency wireless communications and public utility commercial wireless services and will be sited to minimize any potential adverse environmental impacts. The Facility will comply with all structural standards and will not adversely affect the health, safety, or general welfare of the public. The Facility will not cause any harmful interference with the frequencies of any radio, television, telephone or other uses. The Facility will have no impact on pedestrian or vehicular traffic since the proposed use is unmanned requiring infrequent maintenance visits of approximately one per month. The Facility will not produce any smoke, gas, odor, heat, dust, noise above ambient levels, fumes, vibrations, or flashing lights; the Facility will not generate solid waste, wastewater or sewage, will not require water supply or waste disposal, and will not attract insects, vermin, or other vectors. Any human exposure to electromagnetic energy from the Facility, even under “worst case” conditions, will be several orders of magnitude below the exposure limits established by the FCC, the American National

Standards Institute, the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers, the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, and the New York State Department of Health. The Facility will not impact any wetlands and will not be located within any wetland buffers.

7) Due to the topography of the County, the proposed height of the Facility is necessary to provide reliable wireless communications services in the local area and support collocation thereby discouraging the proliferation of towers.

8) The Facility will protect and promote the public interest in that it will serve and benefit the entire community by providing the infrastructure necessary to offer the public wireless telecommunications services essential for protecting public health, safety, and welfare, including the provision of enhanced 911 services.

9) The zoning exemption contemplated by this resolution shall apply and extend to the commercial public utility antennas and related equipment located on or associated with the Facility consistent with the decision of the New York State Court of Appeals in the Matter of Crown Communication New York Inc., 4 N.Y.3d 159.

10) The Agreement is for County land that will not be required by the County over the term of the Agreement except to the extent that the County will place its antennas and equipment at the Facility. The County will benefit from the Agreement revenue as well as the ability to place its antennas and equipment on the Facility. Moreover, the public private partnership will result in the County not being required to expend significant resources to construct and maintain the necessary tower and supporting infrastructure.

11) The County Legislature has reviewed the Agreement and has conducted a public hearing. All Involved/Interested Agencies, including the Town in which the Facility is located, have been notified of the proposal and offered the opportunity to comment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature designates itself as “Lead Agency” in this matter, as defined in 6 NYCRR Part 617.2(u); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature as “Lead Agency”, hereby determines that the project will not have any significant adverse environmental impacts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature, as “Lead Agency” hereby issues a Negative Declaration in connection with the project, a copy of which is attached hereto as Schedule “B”; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the lease premises are surplus space owned by the County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves the Agreement between the County and Homeland, in the form attached hereto and made a part hereof as Schedule “A”, and that the Putnam County Executive is authorized to execute said Agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreement shall be subject to and conditioned upon the County obtaining the requisite waiver of the right of first refusal held by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, as same is contained in Restrictive Covenant No. 4 in the certain deed recorded in Liber 1647 at Page 280 in the Office of the Putnam County Clerk; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreement shall be further subject to and conditioned upon the County obtaining all necessary and required legislation and approvals as may be required for the alienation of public parkland in connection with the Facility; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Attorney is authorized to take whatever legal action is necessary to effectuate the Agreement between the County and Homeland in the manner approved herein; and be it further

RESOLVED, that based upon the foregoing balancing of interest, it is not in the public interest to subject the Facility to local zoning land use regulations.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6p - Approval – Request New York State Legislature to Prepare and Introduce the Necessary Alienation Legislation – Enable Lease Agreement – Homeland Towers, LLC – Construction of Cell Tower – Town of Carmel TM# 64.14-1-8 (PC Golf Course, 161 Hill Street) was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #126

REQUEST NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO PREPARE AND INTRODUCE THE NECESSARY ALIENATION LEGISLATION – ENABLE LEASE AGREEMENT – HOMELAND TOWERS, LLC – CONSTRUCTION OF CELL TOWER – TOWN OF CARMEL TM# 64.14-1-8 (PC Golf Course, 161 Hill Street)

WHEREAS, the County of Putnam is the owner of the property located at 161 Hill Street, Mahopac, New York a/k/a Town of Carmel TM# 64.14-1-8 a/k/a the Putnam County Golf Course (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Property was previously designated as public parkland; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to use a minor, undeveloped portion of the Property for the installation of a 160 foot cellular tower, with the associated equipment shelter, backup generators, and telecommunications equipment; and

WHEREAS, Homeland Towers, LLC (hereinafter “Homeland”), desires to use said portion of the Property to install the support structure and compound area necessary to accommodate the emergency telecommunications coverage needs of various County Emergency Service Departments, in addition to providing the capacity for the collocation of private public utility wireless communications facilities in order to close significant gaps in reliable wireless service that exist in the vicinity of the Property within the County, and avoid the proliferation of towers; and

WHEREAS, the County and Homeland desire to enter into a public-private partnership by entering into a lease agreement for the purpose of constructing said 160 foot tower and supporting equipment (the “Facility”) with County emergency service antennas and which shall provide for the collocation of commercial wireless communication facilities including antennas and related equipment on the Facility, all of which shall be situated on or within a 2,611 (apx.) square foot lease parcel, as further described in the attached Schedule “A”; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the County that the remaining portion of Town of Carmel Tax Map # 64.14-1-8 shall continue to remain public parkland; and

WHEREAS, there are no other feasible alternative sites in the Town of Carmel for the construction of the Facility, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature does hereby request the New York State Legislature to prepare and introduce the necessary alienation legislation that would enable the County of Putnam to enter into the aforementioned lease agreement and the construction of the Facility on the portion of Town of Carmel Tax Map # 64.14-1-8 described in the Schedule “A” attached hereto; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby directs its Clerk to transmit copies of this Resolution to each member of the New York State Legislature that represents any portion of the County of Putnam and to the Speaker of the State of New York Assembly and to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6q - Approval – Department of Public Works – Use of Capital Facility Reserve – (25CP02) (Programmatic Building Management Systems Upgrades) was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #127

APPROVAL – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – USE OF CAPITAL FACILITY RESERVE – (25CP02) (Programmatic Building Management Systems Upgrades)

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works has proposed the use of \$162,000 from the Capital Facility Reserve to fund Project #25CP02 – Programmatic Building Management Systems Upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the Building Management Systems that run the mechanicals serving several of our critical operations facilities need to, or will need to, be upgraded due to impending obsolescence; and

WHEREAS, current systems are being phased out and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer within the next 18 months; and

WHEREAS, systems will be programmatically upgraded based on available funding, priorities, and needs; and

WHEREAS, the request for funding, at this time, will focus on upgrading the Building Management Systems at the Correctional Facility and the Historic Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the request includes a 10% contingency to brace against unforeseen issues that may arise during the contracted work; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee has reviewed and approved this request; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves and authorizes the expenditure of \$162,000 from the Capital Facility Reserve fund budget line 55197000 53000 51509 as follows:

25CP02 – Programmatic Building Management Systems Upgrades

Project cost not to exceed \$162,000

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

AUDIT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Chairwoman Sayegh, Legislators Birmingham & Crowley)

Item #6r - Approval – Participation in the NYCLASS Program Under the Terms of the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #128

APPROVAL – PARTICIPATION IN THE NYCLASS PROGRAM UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NYCLASS MUNICIPAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, New York General Municipal Law, Article 5-G, Section 119-o (Section 119-o) empowers municipal corporations [defined in Article 5-G, Section 119-n to include school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, counties, cities, towns and villages, and districts] to enter into, amend, cancel, and terminate agreements for the performance among themselves (or one for the other) of their respective functions, powers, and duties on a cooperative or contract basis; and

WHEREAS the County of Putnam, New York wishes to invest portions of its available investment funds in cooperation with other corporations and/or districts pursuant to the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of August 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS the County of Putnam, New York wishes to satisfy the safety and liquidity needs of their funds; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Finance of Putnam County New York is hereby authorized to participate in the NYCLASS program under the terms of the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of August 1, 2023.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6s - Approval – Correction of Taxes – Steven & Mildred Facinelli – Town of Carmel Tax Map #55.19-1-19.1 was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #129

APPROVAL – CORRECTION OF TAXES – STEVEN & MILDRED FACINELLI – TOWN OF CARMEL TAX MAP #55.19-1-19.1

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property has requested a correction of taxes in the amount of \$2,800.00 for Steven & Mildred Facinelli in the Town of Carmel, Tax Map #55.19-1-19.1; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property Tax Services, the Commissioner of Finance, the Department of Law, and the County Executive have reviewed and approved said correction; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved said correction; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves the correction of taxes for Steven & Mildred Facinelli in the Town of Carmel for Tax Map #55.19-1-19.1 in the amount of \$2,800.00.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6t - Approval – Correction of Taxes – Home Source, Inc. Ricardo Vasquez – Town of Carmel Tax Map #44.17-1-45 was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #130

APPROVAL – CORRECTION OF TAXES – HOME SOURCE, INC. RICARDO VASQUEZ – TOWN OF CARMEL TAX MAP #44.17-1-45

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property has requested a correction of taxes in the amount of \$4,500.00 for Home Source, Inc. Ricardo Vasquez Tax Map #44.17-1-45 in the Town of Carmel, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property Tax Services, the Commissioner of Finance, the Department of Law, and the County Executive have reviewed and approved said correction; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved said correction; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature approves the correction of taxes for Home Source, Inc. Ricardo Vasquez Tax Map #44.17-1-45 in the Town of Carmel in the amount of \$4,500.00.

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6u – Approval/ Semi-Annual Mortgage Tax Report/ October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025 was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

Legislator Birmingham stated that although this may appear to be ministerial by allocating funds, three (3) of the municipalities are contracting clients of the firm in which he is a partner. He stated that he would abstain and recuse himself.

RESOLUTION #131

APPROVAL/SEMI-ANNUAL MORTGAGE TAX REPORT/ OCTOBER 1, 2024 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2025

WHEREAS, upon receipt of approval of the Semi-Annual Report showing the amounts to be credited to each district of the County of the money collected during the period October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025 from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, the Putnam County Audit and Administration Committee reviewed and hereby forwards same to the Putnam County Legislature; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 261 of the Tax Law, the Putnam County Legislature issues tax warrants for the payment to the respective districts of the amounts so credited and authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Finance to make a payment of said amounts to the respective district in accordance with the report as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Town of Carmel | \$ 486,067.97 |
| Town of Kent | 217,380.76 |
| Town of Patterson | 154,269.39 |
| Town of Philipstown | |
| Village of Cold Spring | 12,744.08 |
| Village of Nelsonville | 3,604.86 |
| Town Outside | 151,836.90 |
| Town of Putnam Valley | 172,159.40 |

Town of Southeast

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Village of Brewster | 7,241.41 |
| | Town Outside | <u>238,811.41</u> |
| Total | | \$1,444,116.18 |

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: SIX AYES. ONE ABSTENTION – LEGISLATOR BIRMINGHAM. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6v – Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (24A140) – Finance – Year End Journal Entry #4 was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #132

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (24A140) – FINANCE – YEAR END JOURNAL ENTRY #4

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (24A140) for the fourth Year End Journal Entry for the year ending December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, further entry(s) will follow as more information becomes available during the year end closing process; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has reviewed and approved said budgetary amendment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

GENERAL FUND:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Increase Appropriations: SEE ATTACHED SHEET | 1,493,057 |
|--|------------------|

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Decrease Appropriations: SEE ATTACHED SHEET | 48,771 |
|--|---------------|

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Increase Estimated Revenues: SEE ATTACHED SHEET | 1,444,286 |
|--|------------------|

DEBT SERVICE FUND:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Increase Appropriations: SEE ATTACHED SHEET | 48,771 |
|--|---------------|

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Increase Estimated Revenues: SEE ATTACHED SHEET | 48,771 |
|--|---------------|

CAPITAL FUND:

Increase Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 47,400

Decrease Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 237,000

Increase Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 3,000,000

Decrease Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 3,189,600

2024 Fiscal Impact – \$935,000
2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #6w – Approval/ DPW – Authorization to Establish a County Park Petty Cash Account was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #133

APPROVAL – DPW – AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A COUNTY PARK PETTY CASH ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, the Deputy Commissioner of County Parks has requested the establishment of a \$500 petty cash fund which will be used to make change for the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, this request is due to the new bank deposit process for the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, the approval of this request will facilitate the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Parks Department to get ready for the 2025 park season prior to the Memorial Day Weekend, Friday, May 23, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has approved this request; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee has considered and approved this request; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature authorizes the Putnam County Commissioner of Finance to establish a \$500 petty cash fund for the County Parks office for the purpose of making change for the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT.
MOTION CARRIES.**

Item #6x – Approval –Fund Transfer 25T078 – Putnam County Historian – Contracts was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that the County Historian sent a memorandum of how the funds will be used. She explained that they are having conversations with the 5th New York Regiment Revolutionary War reenactors, Master Storyteller Jonathan Kruk, and East Fishkill Historical Society/Grinkerhoff House for colonial experiences.

RESOLUTION #134

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T078) – PUTNAM COUNTY HISTORIAN – CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Historian has requested a fund transfer (25T078) to reallocate funds from their temporary line to their contracts line to hire presenters and reenactors for the Historian’s Pavilion at the 2025 County Fair; and

WHEREAS, the Audit & Administration Committee considered said fund transfer for signature by the Committee Chair, and upon the request for further information, the Committee moved to table the fund transfer to the Full Legislative Meeting to be approved by resolution; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1075100051094 | Temporary | 10,000 |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|

Increase:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1075100054646 | Contracts | 10,000 |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & CROWLEY WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #7 – Other Business

There was no other business submitted to the meeting.

Item #8 – Recognition of the Public on Agenda Items

Nicholas Kuvach, Town of Putnam Valley resident, requested that in the future the Legislature consider moving this agenda item up in between items #5 and #6.

Brett Yarris, Town of Carmel Hamlet, thanked the Legislature for codifying the Live Streaming of meetings. He thanked Legislator Crowley for bringing the resolution forward, and Legislator Jonke’s efforts to get us to where we are now from an infrastructure standpoint. He thanked Legislator Montgomery for her persistence in bringing this issue to the forefront. He hoped to see the same for the public comment as well.

Scott Seaman, Town of Southeast resident, stated he was present for the Brewster Board of Education in regard to the proclamations. He thanked the Legislature and the County

Executive for their appreciation in support of their students. He stated that we all know that mental health is in a crisis.

Item #9 – Recognition of Legislators

Legislator Montgomery stated that Putnam County lost Jean Roberts, a 97-year-old Philipstown resident. She was a nurse at Butterfield Hospital and was also a big force behind the Ambulance Corps. She worked at Putnam Hospital for 35-40 years, retiring at the age of 81-years-old. She explained that there has been a lot of uncertainty going back and forth with the sales tax extension. She stated that she has not received a single call, letter or seen a public comment asking for us to lower the sales tax. She believed that people have asked us to stop the chaos and come to this compromise. She stated that every town and village in our County has passed resolutions in support of what is before the State Legislature now. She stated that it was not her original proposal, but she was here tonight willing to compromise because she believed that was what governing demands of us after spending five (5) months on this. She stated that we have bipartisan support throughout the County and now on a State level. She stated that when we receive the final bill numbers from the State, she requested that we act on it swiftly.

There being no further business, at 8:12 P.M., Chairwoman Sayegh made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.