

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

Tuesday July 1, 2025 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:28 P.M. by Chairwoman Sayegh who requested Legislator Jonke lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and Legislator Ellner lead in the Legislative Prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Russo, Ellner, Jonke, Crowley and Chairwoman Sayegh were present. Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham were absent.

Chairwoman Sayegh made a motion to add two (2) proclamations to the agenda which came forward after the agenda had already been printed; seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

PROCLAMATIONS

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Crowley who presented the “Putnam County 4-H Showcase Week” proclamation to Cornell Cooperative Extension. Christine Nastasi, a member of the Board, was in the audience and accepted the proclamation.

DESIGNATING JULY 21-JULY 27, 2025 AS “PUTNAM COUNTY 4-H SHOWCASE WEEK”

WHEREAS, the Putnam 4-H Showcase, sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County is celebrating its 4th year; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County 4-H Showcase presents the many interests and accomplishments of Putnam’s children, adults, and programs. It continues to grow as an educational, cultural, and fun event that provides a wholesome experience for families from Putnam and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County 4-H Showcase enjoys the support and dedication of 4-H Club Leaders, members and families, Master Gardeners volunteers, and community service organizations including Rotary Clubs, as well as many local businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County 4-H Showcase provides a unique opportunity to learn about our community and view educational displays and exhibits created by the many talented young and young at heart residents of Putnam; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County 4-H Showcase provides an exhibit for arts and an array of accomplished artists from the Hudson Valley Region; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County 4-H Showcase delights visitors throughout the weekend with activities at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Expo Barn, local artists and craftsmen tents, Touch A Truck, crafts and face painting, and Livestock and Poultry Barn, inflatable activities, food trucks, Duck Derby and more; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the week of July 21th - July 27th, 2025 will be designated “Putnam County 4H Showcase Week”; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature recognize and congratulate the annual 4-H Showcase and invite all Putnam County residents to attend.

Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Russo who presented the “Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week” proclamation to Putnam County Probation Supervisor Amy Dehais.

PRETRIAL, PROBATION, PAROLE SUPERVISION WEEK - JULY 20-26, 2025

WHEREAS, community corrections is an essential part of the justice system; and
WHEREAS, community corrections professionals uphold the law with dignity, while recognizing the right of the public to be safe-guarded from criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, community corrections professionals are responsible for supervising adult and juvenile offenders in the community and are trained professionals who provide services and referrals for offenders; and

WHEREAS, community corrections professionals work in partnership with community agencies and groups; and

WHEREAS, community corrections professionals promote prevention, intervention, and advocacy while providing services, support, and protection for victims; and

WHEREAS, community corrections professionals advocate for community and restorative justice; and

WHEREAS, community corrections professionals are a true Force for Positive Change in their communities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature do hereby proclaim the week of July 20-26, 2025 as Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week and encourage all Putnam County residents to honor these community corrections professionals and to recognize their achievements.

Item #4 – Acceptance of Minutes - Special Mtg – April 28, 2025

Budget & Finance Mtg – June 3, 2025

Special Mtg – June 10, 2025

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #5 – Correspondence

a) County Auditor

There was no activity during the reporting period.

Item #6 – Pre-filed resolutions:

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

(All Legislators)

Item #6a – Approval - 2026 Decentralized Budget Review Process for Preparation and Adoption of the 2026 County Budget was next. On behalf of the members of the Budget & Finance Committee, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #169

APPROVAL - 2026 DECENTRALIZED BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS FOR PREPARATION AND ADOPTION OF THE 2026 COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed and recommended the adoption of the attached Decentralized Budget Review Process for implementation in 2025 of the adoption of the 2026 budget; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts the attached budget review process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Putnam County Charter Section 7.04 the Putnam County Legislature hereby adopts and notifies the County Executive of the policy and practice guidelines contained in Section E of this Decentralized Budget Review Process/2026 to be complied with by the County Executive.

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

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
(Chairman Jonke, Legislators Addonizio & Gouldman)

Item #6b - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T091) – Health Department – Former Interim Commissioner of Health – Pay Out Accruals was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Jonke, Chairman of the Personnel Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislator Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery thanked Dr. Nesheiwat for his guidance in Putnam County. She admitted that she and him had a rocky start during COVID-19 but have become friends. She was glad that he was here to now act as a consultant for Putnam County in the Department of Health.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that Dr. Nesheiwat has served as Commissioner in our Putnam County Health Department from December 2015 through March 2025. She thanked him for his service and his wiliness to make a smooth transition in the Health Department to stay on as a consultant.

RESOLUTION #170

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T091) – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – FORMER INTERIM COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH – PAY OUT ACCRUALS

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has requested a fund transfer (25T091) to Pay Out Accruals to the former Interim Commissioner of Health; 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:

11401000 51000 (11120)	Public Health Nurse Vacancy	38,642
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Increase:

10401000 51000 (10116) Interim Commissioner of Health 38,642

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

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO & BIRMINGHAM WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6c - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T159) – Health Department – Fiscal Technician Retirement – Temporary was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislator Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery expressed her appreciation for the work he has done, and she was glad that he would be staying on as a consultant. She wished him well in his retirement.

RESOLUTION #171

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T159) – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – FISCAL TECHNICIAN RETIREMENT – TEMPORARY

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Technician in the Health Department will be retiring effective June 27, 2025; and

WHEREAS, this employee has agreed to return to work the first week of July as a Temporary hourly employee to continue to support Senior Fiscal Manager and Fiscal Staff, and to provide ongoing succession training by distributing a portion of her work to others on the Fiscal Team; and

WHEREAS, said Temporary employee will receive an hourly rate of \$44.10, which is their current Grade of 16, Step 4 (minus longevities); and

WHEREAS, said Temporary employee will work an average of 25 – 30 hours per week; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Director has requested a fund transfer (25T159) to cover this request for Temporary funding; 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:

10401000 51000 (102)	Admin – Fiscal Technician	35,000
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Increase:

10401000 51094	Admin – Temporary	35,000
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –
2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6d - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T160) – Health Department – Senior Fiscal Management Retirement – Temporary was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislator Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #172

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T160) – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – SENIOR FISCAL MANAGEMENT RETIREMENT – TEMPORARY

WHEREAS, the Senior Fiscal Manager in the Health Department will be retiring effective June 26, 2025; and

WHEREAS, this employee has agreed to return to work on June 30, 2025 as a Temporary hourly employee, working in the same capacity as a Senior Fiscal Manager in the Health Department; and

WHEREAS, this change in the status of employment has been approved by the County Executive; and

WHEREAS, said employee will receive his current hourly rate of \$73.97; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Director has requested a fund transfer (25T160) to cover this request for Temporary funding; 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:

10401000 51000 (111)	Admin – Senior Fiscal Manager	68,000
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Increase:

10401000 51094	Admin – Temporary	68,000
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6e - Approval – Fund Transfer (25T164) – Health Department – Senior Fiscal Manager Retirement – Pay Out Accruals was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislator Addonizio and Gouldman, Legislator Jonke moved the following:

RESOLUTION #173

APPROVAL – FUND TRANSFER (25T164) – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – SENIOR FISCAL MANAGER RETIREMENT – PAY OUT ACCRUALS

WHEREAS, the Public Health Director has requested a fund transfer (25T164) to account for the pay out of accruals for the Retirement of the Senior Fiscal Manager; 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:

11401000 51000 (11116)	Public Health Nurse Vacancy	10,000
11401000 51000 (11113)	Public Health Nurse Vacancy	<u>15,825</u>
		25,825

Increase:

10401000 51000 (10111)	Admin – Senior Fiscal Manager	25,825
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

(Chairman Jonke, Legislators Addonizio & Birmingham)

Item #6f - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A049) – Sheriff’s Office – Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) - Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) State & Local Overtime (SLOT) Grant Funding Adjustment 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 #174

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A049) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS (BCI) - HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATION (HSI) STATE & LOCAL OVERTIME (SLOT) GRANT FUNDING ADJUSTMENT

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a budgetary amendment (25A049) to adjust the 2025 budget to reflect the Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) State & Local Overtime (SLOT) grant funding adjustment award of \$12,000; and

WHEREAS, said SLOT funds from HSI New York are for Fiscal Year 2025, which runs from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025; 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:

GENERAL FUND:

Increase Appropriations:

32311000 51093 10177	Pers. Serv. – Sheriff’s Office – BCI	4,179
32311000 58002 10177	FICA – Sheriff’s Office – BCI	<u>321</u>
		4,500

Increase Revenue:

32311000 443890 10177	Public Safety – Homeland Security
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Investigation

4,500

2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

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

Item #6g - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A051) – Finance – SPCA Vehicle Purchase – Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) – State and Municipalities (SAM) Grant was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Ellner, member of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Chairman Birmingham and Legislator Gouldman, Legislator Ellner moved the following.

RESOLUTION #175

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A051) – FINANCE – SPCA VEHICLE PURCHASE – DORMITORY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK (DASNY) – STATE AND MUNICIPALITIES (SAM) GRANT

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Inc. (SPCA) is seeking to purchase a vehicle using State and Municipalities (SAM) Grant funding through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY); and

WHEREAS, the SPCA has provided a copy of a Grant Disbursement Agreement with (DASNY) for \$50,000 in (SAM) Grant funding for the purchase of a vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (25A051) which will permit the County to advance the SPCA \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County will recoup these funds from the SPCA upon their receipt of NYS SAM Grant funding per the Grant Disbursement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations 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:

25851300 54950	SPCA – County Contribution	50,000
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

25851300 423890	SPCA – Miscellaneous Revenue	50,000
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6h - Approval – Putnam Arts Council Grants for 2025 was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Chairman Birmingham and Legislator Gouldman, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery thanked Putnam Arts Council President and Director Joyce Picone and the volunteer organization for their due diligence, hard work and all that they provide in support of the wonderful arts events in Putnam County. She hoped that the Legislature could get them more money during the budget this year.

Chairwoman Sayegh also thanked President and Director Joyce Picone and all her volunteers. She thanked her for being present at all of our meetings to address any questions.

Legislator Crowley concurred. She thanked everyone for being patient in getting this approved.

RESOLUTION #176

APPROVAL – PUTNAM ARTS COUNCIL GRANTS FOR 2025

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2025, the Putnam Arts Council reported to the Putnam County Legislature their recommendations for distribution of the 2025 Arts Link Community Regrant Program (formerly Putnam Arts Fund) totaling \$13,993; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature accepts and approves the recommendation of the Putnam Arts Council dated May 30, 2025, distribution of \$13,993 for the 2025 Arts Link Community Regrant Program for the first round of applications pursuant to the attached list.

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

Item #6i – Approval – Local Law to Amend Chapter 220, Article X, Entitled “Exemption for Qualified Members of Volunteer Fire Departments and Ambulance Corps” was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Chairman Birmingham and Legislator Gouldman, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

Legislator Gouldman believed that changing this to two (2) years was discussed in Committee.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Conrad Pasquale explained that it was discussed and the period of five (years) was changed to two (2) years in Section 220-66(E).

Legislator Jonke explained that Putnam County already had the exemption. This was to exempt those individuals who are volunteers residing outside of the municipality.

Legislator Montgomery stated that she was in full support of this. She stated that EMS is not essential anywhere in New York State. She stated that there is a packet of bills before the State Legislature to make it essential. She stated that this is a small measure in support for our Fire and EMS workers. She stated that we have a long way to go to continue this work.

Legislator Gouldman explained that volunteerism in Putnam County and throughout New York State in the Ambulance Corps. and Fire Departments have decreased. He believed that anything we could do to encourage volunteerism for these departments is very helpful. He explained that without these volunteers there would be a substantial cost to the towns and County in having paid departments 24/7.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that these volunteers need to go through extensive training to be certified and recertified, frequently at their own expense. She stated that the purpose of this exemption is to maintain the ranks of the volunteer corps. and encourage individuals to join.

RESOLUTION #177

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 220, ARTICLE X, ENTITLED "EXEMPTION FOR QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND AMBULANCE CORPS"

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the County of Putnam as follows:

<<PUTNAM COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 220>>

<<ARTICLE X>>

Section 1.

Section 220-65 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-65. Legislative intent.

Chapter 670 of the Laws of 2022 added a new § 466-a to the Real Property Tax Law, repealing prior §§ 466-a through 466-k, though continuing the exemption provided therein. Section 466-a provides a real property tax exemption of 10% for qualified members of volunteer fire departments and ambulance corps statewide, subject to adoption by individual municipalities. Members of volunteer fire departments and ambulance corps provide valuable services to the people of Putnam County. In order to be certified and recertified, such volunteers must undertake numerous hours of training on their own time and frequently at their own expense. The purpose of this exemption is to maintain the ranks of the volunteer corps and encourage volunteers to join. In 2024, §466-1 was added, which allows the exemption to be extended to volunteers who provide such services to a neighboring city, village, or town. The enabling legislation enacted by the State Legislature requires that localities must adopt a local law in order to afford those volunteers such exemption.

Section 2.

Section 220-66 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-66. Applicability.

Such exemption shall not be granted to an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service residing in such county unless:

- A. The applicant resides in a city, town, or village in Putnam County;
- B. The property is the primary residence of the applicant;
- C. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes; provided, however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section; and
- D. The applicant serves as a member of a volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service that is located in and provides service to any city, village, or town in Putnam County;
- E. The applicant has been certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or voluntary ambulance service as an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or voluntary ambulance service for a period of two years of service;
- F. The applicant must file a certificate from his or her qualifying organization that he or she is an enrolled member. Such certification of membership must certify that the member received credit under a service award program defined by Article 11-A, 11-AA, 11-AAA, or 11-AAAA of the General Municipal Law for the period of service claimed in the application.

Section 3.

Section 220-67 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-67. Continuation of eligibility requirements.

The applicant shall maintain continual eligibility for the exemption by being a continuously active member of the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, fire district, or incorporated ambulance service. An active member shall meet the requirements for active service as defined by each company, department, or corporation. Annual attestation by such company, district, or corporation is required to maintain this exemption.

Section 4.

Section 220-68 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-68. Lifetime exemption.

Any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who accrues more than 20 years of active service and is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated

volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service shall be granted the 10% exemption as authorized by this article for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within such County.

Section 5.

Section 220-69 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-69. Unremarried spouses of volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers killed in line of duty.

An exemption granted under this article shall be continued, and a preexisting exemption shall be reinstated, where the exemption was previously claimed by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, to such deceased enrolled member's unremarried spouse if such member is killed in the line of duty; provided, however, that:

- A. Such unremarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an unremarried spouse of an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who was killed in the line of duty; and
- B. Such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five years; and
- C. Such deceased volunteer had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

Section 6.

Section 220-69.1 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-69.1. Unremarried spouses of deceased volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers.

An exemption granted under this article shall be continued, and a preexisting exemption shall be reinstated, to an unremarried spouse of a deceased enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service; provided, however, that:

- A. Such unremarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an unremarried spouse of a deceased enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service; and
- B. Such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least 20 years; and
- C. Such deceased volunteer and unremarried spouse had been receiving the exemption for such property prior to the death of such volunteer.

Section 7.

Section 220-69 .2 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 220-69.2. Application for exemption.

- A. Application for such exemption, along with the certificate of membership defined above, shall be filed with the applicable town assessor on or before the taxable status date on a form as prescribed by the Commissioner of the Office of Real Property Tax Services.**
- B. Certification shall be required for any period of time claimed by an applicant that is not already on file with the applicable town assessor.**
- C. The assessor shall review the application and certification to ensure they have satisfied the requirements of this law.**

Section 8.

Section 220-69.3 of the Putnam County Code is hereby added as follows:

§220-69.3. Continuation of exemption.

No applicant who is a volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker who by reason of such status is receiving any benefit under the provisions of this article on the effective date of this article shall suffer any diminution of such benefit because of the provisions of this section. Any exemption under Article X of Chapter 220, as added by L.L. No. 1 of 2003, shall be considered the same and equivalent to the exemption available under this article.

Section 9.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon the filing with the secretary of state.

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

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

Item #6j - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A052) – DPW – Amend Capital Project 52405 Putnam County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) Life Safety Systems Modernization was next. 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 #178

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A052) – DPW – AMEND CAPITAL PROJECT 52405 PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (PCSO) LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

WHEREAS, by Resolution #167 of 2024, the Putnam County Legislature approved \$720,000 of ARPA funding for Capital Project 52405 – PCSO Life Safety Systems Modernization; and

WHEREAS, during the installation phase of the project, unanticipated issues were identified and will need to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, these include the addition of intercom tones for shift changes along with troubleshooting specific wiring for cells; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of DPW has requested budgetary amendment (25A052) to in order to successfully and fully complete this project; and

WHEREAS, the Physical 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:

CAPITAL FUND:

Increase Appropriations:		
53097000 53000 52405	Capital Expenditures	16,000

Increase Estimated Revenues:		
53097000 428601 52405	Transfer In – General Fund	16,000

GENERAL FUND:

Increase Appropriations:		
10990100 59020 52405	Transfer Out – General Fund	16,000

Decrease Estimated Revenues:		
10199000 54980	General Contingencies	16,000

2025 Fiscal Impact - \$16,000
2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6k - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A055) – Planning Department – NYSDOT Contract – Modernization & Enhancement Program (MEP) Funding – Trolley Replacement – Amend Funding Source was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #179

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A055) – PLANNING DEPARTMENT – NYSDOT CONTRACT – MODERNIZATION & ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (MEP) FUNDING – TROLLEY REPLACEMENT – AMEND FUNDING SOURCE

WHEREAS, by Resolution #66 of 2024, the Putnam County Legislature approved a budgetary amendment in anticipation of receiving an approved contract from NYSDOT for various approved grant funding including Modernization & Enhancement Program (MEP) funding in the amount of \$137,909 for a trolley purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Planning has requested a budgetary amendment (25A055) to correct the State Aid funding source approved on Resolution #66 of 2024 from State Aid Section 5307 to State Aid MEP funding; and

WHEREAS, the Physical 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:

55997000 435974 51711	State Aid – MEP Funding	137,909
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Decrease Revenues:

55997000 435970 51711	State Aid – Section 5307	137,909
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6L - Approval – Budgetary Transfer (25T165) – Finance – MTA Railroad Station Maintenance was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that it is often difficult to project the maintenance costs during the budget process. She explained that the cost was more than projected.

RESOLUTION #180

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY TRANSFER (25T165) – FINANCE – MTA RAILROAD STATION MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary transfer (25T165) to fund the MTA Railroad Station Maintenance costs pursuant to Section 1277 of the Public Authorities Law; and

WHEREAS, this covers a period of April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, this will fund the deficit created by a greater-than-anticipated CPI factor; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services 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:

10564000 54950	Railroad Station Maintenance – MTA	20,798
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Decrease Appropriations:

10199000 54980	Contingency	20,798
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2025 Fiscal Impact - \$20,798

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6m - Approval – SEQRA Determination – Negative Declaration – Terry Hill Road (CR 46) and NYS Route 311 Intersection Improvements was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #181

APPROVAL - SEQRA DETERMINATION - NEGATIVE DECLARATION - TERRY HILL ROAD (CR 46) AND NYS ROUTE 311 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature is considering the approval of a Putnam County Department of Public Works project that involves Intersection improvements including widening for turning lanes, drainage and related improvements, signalization, and pedestrian improvements at the intersection of NYS Route 311 and Terry Hill Road east of NYS Route 52 in the Town of Kent; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Project is to improve the safety and capacity of this intersection; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action hereunder is subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the Regulations promulgated thereunder (“SEQRA 6 NYCRR Part 617”); and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2025, as part of Resolution #25-52, the County Legislature issued an Unlisted Action determination for the above referenced project, and declared its intent to serve as Lead Agency with respect to SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, a short Environmental Assessment form (EAF) was prepared for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the EAF and associated documentation was circulated to all involved and interested agencies for the requisite 30 days with a notice of the Putnam County Legislature’s Intent to Serve as Lead Agency and no objections were received thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature, acting as Lead Agency, conducted a coordinated environmental review in accordance with §617.6; and

WHEREAS, based upon a careful review of the action as a whole, of the EAF, and the criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.7(c), it has been determined that the proposed Project will not result in any potential significant adverse environmental impacts; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature, as Lead Agency, determines that the proposed Project will not have any potential significant adverse impacts and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617, the Putnam County Legislature, as Lead Agency, hereby accepts and adopts the Negative Declaration prepared in connection with the Terry Hill Road (CR 46) & NYS Route 311 Intersection Improvements project, a copy of which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Item #6n - Approval – Putnam County’s Proposed Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan in Conformance with and as Required by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s

Final Rule (49 C.F.R. Part 673) was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #182

APPROVAL - PUTNAM COUNTY'S PROPOSED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PLAN IN CONFORMANCE WITH AND AS REQUIRED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S FINAL RULE (49 C.F.R. PART 673)

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation, by and through the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA"), provides funding and/or financial assistance to transit providers to, among other things, develop new transportation systems and improve, maintain and operate existing systems; and

WHEREAS, the County of Putnam ("County") is a direct recipient of FTA funding and/or financial assistance and, as such, must comply with FTA rules and regulations, more particularly, as set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 673 *et seq.* ("Final Rule"); and

WHEREAS, the Final Rule requires that recipients of FTA grant funds and/or financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. Sec. 5307 that operate a public transportation system must develop a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan ("Safety Plan") that includes the processes and procedures necessary for implementing Safety Management Systems ("SMS"); and

WHEREAS, the SMS components of the Safety Plan include, without limitation, safety management policy, safety risk management, safety assurance, and safety promotion; and

WHEREAS, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law amends FTA's final rule under 49 U.S.C. Sec. 5329(d)(5) to require recipients receiving Section 5307 funding and serving an urbanized area greater than 200,000 to establish a Safety Committee. As such, the County will continue to utilize MV Transportation's previously established Committee consisting of three management and three frontline employee representatives; and

WHEREAS, in September 2024, FTA published General Directive 24-1 which requires transit agencies as part of their Safety Plan to conduct a safety risk assessment related to assaults on transit workers using the Safety Management System (SMS) processes, identify safety risk mitigations or strategies necessary as a result of the safety risk assessment; and provide information to FTA on how they are assessing, mitigating, and monitoring the safety risk associated with assaults on transit workers; and

WHEREAS, the County, as a transit operator, is required to certify annually that it has developed/updated its Safety Plan and such Plan meets all of the requirements of the Final Rule; and

WHEREAS, the County, by and through the Department of Planning, Development and Public Transportation, in furtherance of the objectives of 49 C.F.R. Part 673 *et seq.*, has drafted its Safety Plan pursuant to the Final Rule, such Safety Plan attached hereto as Exhibit "A," now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, together with the Putnam County Legislature, support the County's continued participation in approved FTA services, programs and activities, as well as continue to be a recipient of FTA funding and/or financial assistance; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, together with the Putnam County Legislature, support and approve for submission by the Department of Planning, Development and Public Transportation to the FTA the County's Safety Plan for review and approval, which Safety Plan is attached hereto as "Exhibit A;" and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Item #60 - Approval – Ratification of Applications Submitted for Grant Funding Available through the 2025 Consolidated Funding Application Program Aimed to Improve Water Quality and Improve and Maintain Infrastructure in Putnam County was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #183

APPROVAL - RATIFICATION OF APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE THROUGH THE 2025 CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION PROGRAM AIMED TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AND IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PUTNAM COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County Executive and the Putnam County Legislature (the “Legislature”) agree that it is important to maintain and upgrade government facilities to improve operations and infrastructure and to implement projects that directly improve water quality or habitat, promote flood risk reduction, restoration, and enhanced flood and climate resiliency in Putnam County (the “County”); and

WHEREAS, competitive funding opportunities are offered through New York State and set forth in NYSREDC’s 2025 Available CFA Resources Manual (the “Manual”), for which the submission deadline of applications is July 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, funding opportunities described in the Manual include the NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP) funding which funds projects for dam safety repair, rehabilitation and dam removal and the purchase of vacuum trucks in Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) areas among others, and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities, all of which are expected to improve the environmental conditions of County facilities and promote social viability and vitality, thereby positively impacting the County’s economic competitiveness, which is wholly in the best interests of County taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the County, by and through the Putnam County Department of Planning, Development and Public Transportation (the “Department”), is desirous to competitively seek grant funds through REDC’s 2025 CFA program; and

WHEREAS, if grant funding is awarded to the County, depending on the award and grant category, the state award is a maximum of eighty to fifty percent of the total project costs:

Proposed Project	Location	Estimated Costs	CFA Application
<i>Putnam County Trail Maintenance Project</i>	<i>Putnam & Maybrook Trails</i>	<i>\$376,000</i>	<i>\$300,000</i>
<i>Continental Village Dam</i>	<i>Aquaduct Rd, Garrison, NY</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>\$375,000</i>

<i>Vacuum Truck Acquisition</i>	<i>County-wide utilization</i>	<i>\$575,000</i>	<i>\$400,000</i>
<i>Strategic Plan for</i>	<i>Various Locations</i>	<i>\$200,000</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
<i>County-owned Buildings</i>			

Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, together with the Legislature, supports and approves of the County's applications for CFA grant funding to be submitted by the Department by July 31, 2025 to the NYREDC for its consideration; and it is hereby further **RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Item #6p - Approval – SEQRA – Agricultural District was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner moved the following:

RESOLUTION #184

APPROVAL – SEQRA - AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture and Markets as Lead Agency for the Agricultural Districts Program has conducted a programmatic review of the environmental effects of Agricultural Districts and has concluded that there is little likelihood of significant adverse environmental impacts resulting from the formation or modifications of such districts; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the County to review the site-specific proposals under consideration to determine if unique circumstances exist which increase the likelihood of environmental significance; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture and Markets recommends that the County Legislative body serve as the Lead Agency to ensure compliance with the requirement of the State Environmental Quality Review Act as it is the only other agency required to undertake an action except for the Department of Agriculture and Markets; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature declares itself to be the lead agency to ensure compliance with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature, as Lead Agency, hereby determines that the site-specific parcels contained in the proposed Agriculture District modifications will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature, as lead agency, hereby accepts and adopts the Negative Declaration prepared in connection with the proposed Agriculture District modifications, a copy of which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof.

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

Item #6q - Approval – Inclusion of Parcels in Putnam County Agricultural District was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner brought forward the following:

Legislator Ellner requested the resolution be divided to vote on the seven applicants approved by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board first.

Chairwoman Sayegh suggested dividing the question into the seven applicants approved by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board, and the other two (2) recommendations approved by the Physical Services Committee separately, Clara Patunga Farm and Reinmaker Farm.

Legislator Ellner concurred.

Legislator Jonke stated that his first seven (7) years on the Legislature he voted for every single parcel that was recommended. He stated that last year there was a discussion about prime soils. He stated that because it seemed that there was a rule we needed to follow, he voted against properties getting into the Agricultural District. He stated that the Legislature learned that this was not really the case, therefore, he would be voting for these parcels.

Chairwoman Sayegh read the names of the following farms recommended for inclusion by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board: Bowen Farm, LLC., Lobster Hill Farm, Big Red Barn Farm, Cucumber Hill Farm, The Rush Family Farm, Bardon LLC., and White Oak Apiary.

By Poll Call Vote: All Ayes. Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham were absent. Motion Carries.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that we will now vote on the remaining two (2) farms approved at the Physical Services Committee that were not recommended by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. She stated that the first we will consider is Clara Patunga Farm.

Legislator Ellner questioned Counsel if there was a minimum acreage requirement.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Pasquale did not believe there was an acreage requirement based on the research he has done. He stated that there are certain sections of the Agriculture & Markets Law that pertain to acreage requirements as well as cumulative sales, especially within the first several years of operation. However, it did not speak to eligibility of the parcel to be in the Agricultural District, but more to other certain benefits that are covered under the law.

Legislator Crowley explained that the eight (8) year review will be coming up which would give us two (2) years to inspect the startup farms to make sure they are doing what is expected. It would also pertain to all farms, not just the new ones we are including that just happen to be within the two (2) year period.

Legislator Montgomery explained that although she is not a farmer, she is an advocate for farming. She stated that she trusts in the process of the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. She stated that last year she deferred to them and voted for all the farms that the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board recommended. She explained that this farm was not recommended by the Board, but that does not mean they cannot farm or apply next year. She explained that she tends to vote in favor of what is recommended by the Advisory Boards and that is the reason why she asks for so much information on the people being appointed to the Boards.

Legislator Jonke explained that based on the information received during the Physical Services Committee meeting, he would be voting not to include this property.

Legislator Russo thanked the volunteers on the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board on behalf of the County for their hard work in doing the site visits on the parcels requested for inclusion. She believed that this farm could wait another before being considered based on the Board's recommendation not to include them.

Legislator Montgomery believed that the farmers are experienced, and the farm will be very viable in the future. She explained that the parcel was in her district, and she was hoping to see it succeed.

Legislator Gouldman believed that farming was in their blood and that these farmers were experienced in growing crops. He stated that they live in Putnam Valley, and he would be supporting this farm.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that she would defer to the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board and their expertise. She stated that she does not deny the potential of the farm or that it would not be a great operation in the future, but she did not support their inclusion at this time.

Chairwoman Sayegh called for a Roll Call Vote on the inclusion of Clara Patunga Farm.

By Roll Call Vote: Two Ayes – Legislators Crowley and Gouldman. Five Nays – Legislators Ellner, Jonke, Montgomery, Russo and Chairwoman Sayegh. Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham were absent. Motion Fails.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that Reinmaker Farm will be the next farm to consider.

Legislator Montgomery wanted everyone to be aware that this does not mean that Reinmaker Farm cannot farm; they can. She stated that this was a parcel not recommended by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board for various reasons. She appreciated Mr. Lepler's experience and dedication to farming in Putnam County, however she was not comfortable going against the recommendation of the Board.

Legislator Jonke stated that he would be voting in favor of this. He stated that it is an operation that has been in place for 40 years. He stated that there was a transfer of the property into another ownership and Mr. Lepler is recreating his property. He stated that construction is well underway.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that she would follow the recommendation of the Board. She explained that the infrastructure was not in place at the time the Board toured the property. She understands that it will be in place by the end of the summer, however there is an inclusion period for a reason. She believed it would start a dangerous precedence if the inclusion was based on what someone said they were going to do on the property. She encouraged him to reapply next year.

Chairwoman Sayegh called for a Roll Call Vote on the inclusion of Reinmaker Farm.

By Roll Call Vote: Three Ayes – Legislators Crowley, Gouldman and Jonke. Three Nays – Legislators Montgomery, Russo and Chairwoman Sayegh. One Abstention – Legislator Ellner. Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham were absent. Motion Fails.

(The Resolution below was amended after the meeting to remove Clara Patunga Farm and Reinmaker Farm. Resolution #185 is the corrected resolution)

APPROVAL - INCLUSION OF PARCELS IN PUTNAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, by Resolution #81 of 2003, the Putnam County Legislature created an Agricultural District in the County of Putnam; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #193 of 2011, after the 8th year anniversary of the formation of the district, the Putnam County Legislature modified said Putnam County Agricultural District #1, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #244 of 2003, the Putnam County Legislature established the month of November in which a landowner may request inclusion in the Putnam County Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #154 of 2015, the Putnam County Legislature changed the annual thirty-day inclusion request period, from the month of November to April 1st through April 30th, commencing in the year 2016 and each year thereafter; and

WHEREAS, November 19, 2019 marked the second 8-Year Anniversary of the formation of this district requiring the Putnam County Legislature to review this district and either continue, terminate or modify the district created; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #204 of 2019 the Putnam County Legislature determined that the Putnam County Agricultural District No. 1 remained the same in accordance with the recommendations of the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board to consist of 157 parcels with a total acreage of 5,113.9 acres; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, requests were presented to the Putnam County Legislature to modify the existing Agricultural District in the County of Putnam by including the following parcels in the District:

Town of Kent:

Bowen Farm, LLC. (Robert Rudemyer, Jr.) – Tax Map #12.-3-71 (26.73 acres) Tax Map #22.-1-15 (40.00 acres) Total Acreage: 66.73 (the 40 acre parcel is rented and already in the Agricultural District)

Town of Patterson:

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-4-56 (22.49 acres) Total Acreage 22.49

Mother & Daughter Farm (Peter Clarke & Martha Cotto) – Tax Map #34.-3-1.41 (15.50 acres) Total Acreage 15.50

Town of Putnam Valley:

Big Red Barn Farm (Joey Mancuso) – Tax Map #72.16-1-1 (67.05 acres) Total Acreage: 67.05

Clara Patunga Farm (Olivia & Andrew Wulkan) – Tax Map #72.12-1-6 (1.70 acres) Total Acreage 1.70

Cucumber Hill Farm (Justin Baker) – Tax Map #84.-2-41 (28.85 acres) Total Acreage 28.85

The Rush Family Farm (Francis W. Rush III) - Tax Map #83.20-1-6 (33.00 acres) Total Acreage: 33.00

Town of Southeast:

Artemis Farm (Christophe Landon) – Tax Map #57.-2-47 (71.56 acres) Tax Map #57.-3-17 (68.403 acres - this parcel does not exist and was not included in total acreage) and Tax Map #57.-2-46.1 (67.26 acres) Total Acreage 138.82 (other two (2) parcels are already in Agricultural District)

Barndog LLC (Wendy Janesky) – Tax Map #80.1-3.1 (28.01 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.2 (32.48 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.3 (5.00 acres) Total Acreage 65.49

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-1-10 (56.13 acres) Total Acreage: 56.13

Reinmaker Farm (Harold Lepler) – Tax Map #58.-1-34.2 (107.50 acres) Total Acreage: 107.50

White Oak Apiary (Michael Bruen) – Tax Map #57.-2-46.2 (1.14 acres) Total Acreage: 1.14

Total acreage in petitions: 604.40

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 25 AA of the Agriculture and Market Law, section 303-b, a public hearing on the requests was conducted by the Putnam County Legislature on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board considered the requests for inclusion and reported that certain parcels applying for inclusion would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the District and recommended the inclusion of said parcels in the Putnam County Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee of the Putnam County Legislature reviewed and considered the recommendations made by the Putnam County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has considered the comments of the speakers at the public hearing, the recommendations of the Putnam County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, the recommendations of the Physical Services Committee, the various letters in support and in opposition to the inclusion of these parcels in the modification of the Agricultural District; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature accepts and adopts the findings provided by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board and the amendments made during the Physical Services Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby includes in the Putnam County Agricultural District the following Tax Map identified parcels:

Town of Kent:

Bowen Farm, LLC. (Robert Rudemyer, Jr.) – Tax Map #12.-3-71 (26.73 acres)

Town of Patterson:

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-4-56 (22.49 acres) Total Acreage 22.49

Town of Putnam Valley:

Big Red Barn Farm (Joey Mancuso) – Tax Map #72.16-1-1 (67.05 acres) Total Acreage: 67.05

Clara Patunga Farm (Olivia & Andrew Wulkan) – Tax Map #72.12-1-6 (1.70 acres) Total Acreage 1.70

Cucumber Hill Farm (Justin Baker) – Tax Map #84.-2-41 (28.85 acres) Total Acreage 28.85

The Rush Family Farm (Francis W. Rush III) - Tax Map #83.20-1-6 (33.00 acres) Total Acreage: 33.00

Town of Southeast:

Barndog LLC (Wendy Janesky) – Tax Map #80.1-3.1 (28.01 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.2 (32.48 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.3 (5.00 acres) Total Acreage 65.49

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-1-10 (56.13 acres) Total Acreage: 56.13

Reinmaker Farm (Harold Lepler) – Tax Map #58.-1-34.2 (107.50 acres) Total Acreage: 107.50

White Oak Apiary (Michael Bruen) – Tax Map #57.-2-46.2 (1.14 acres) Total Acreage: 1.14

For a Total of 410.08 acres to be included.

***Copy of Applications on file in the Legislative Office for review.**

RESOLUTION #185

APPROVAL - INCLUSION OF PARCELS IN PUTNAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, by Resolution #81 of 2003, the Putnam County Legislature created an Agricultural District in the County of Putnam; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #193 of 2011, after the 8th year anniversary of the formation of the district, the Putnam County Legislature modified said Putnam County Agricultural District #1, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #244 of 2003, the Putnam County Legislature established the month of November in which a landowner may request inclusion in the Putnam County Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #154 of 2015, the Putnam County Legislature changed the annual thirty-day inclusion request period, from the month of November to April 1st through April 30th, commencing in the year 2016 and each year thereafter; and

WHEREAS, November 19, 2019 marked the second 8-Year Anniversary of the formation of this district requiring the Putnam County Legislature to review this district and either continue, terminate or modify the district created; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #204 of 2019 the Putnam County Legislature determined that the Putnam County Agricultural District No. 1 remained the same in accordance with the recommendations of the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board to consist of 157 parcels with a total acreage of 5,113.9 acres; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, requests were presented to the Putnam County Legislature to modify the existing Agricultural District in the County of Putnam by including the following parcels in the District:

Town of Kent:

Bowen Farm, LLC. (Robert Rudemyer, Jr.) – Tax Map #12.-3-71 (26.73 acres) Tax Map #22.-1-15 (40.00 acres) Total Acreage: 66.73 (the 40 acre parcel is rented and already in the Agricultural District)

Town of Patterson:

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-4-56 (22.49 acres) Total Acreage 22.49

Mother & Daughter Farm (Peter Clarke & Martha Cotto) – Tax Map #34.-3-1.41 (15.50 acres) Total Acreage 15.50

Town of Putnam Valley:

Big Red Barn Farm (Joey Mancuso) – Tax Map #72.16-1-1 (67.05 acres) Total Acreage: 67.05

Clara Patunga Farm (Olivia & Andrew Wulkan) – Tax Map #72.12-1-6 (1.70 acres) Total Acreage 1.70

Cucumber Hill Farm (Justin Baker) – Tax Map #84.-2-41 (28.85 acres) Total Acreage 28.85

The Rush Family Farm (Francis W. Rush III) - Tax Map #83.20-1-6 (33.00 acres) Total Acreage: 33.00

Town of Southeast:

Artemis Farm (Christophe Landon) – Tax Map #57.-2-47 (71.56 acres) Tax Map #57.-3-17 (68.403 acres - this parcel does not exist and was not included in total acreage) and Tax Map #57.-2-46.1 (67.26 acres) Total Acreage 138.82 (other two (2) parcels are already in Agricultural District)

Barndog LLC (Wendy Janesky) – Tax Map #80.1-3.1 (28.01 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.2 (32.48 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.3 (5.00 acres) Total Acreage 65.49

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-1-10 (56.13 acres) Total Acreage: 56.13

Reinmaker Farm (Harold Lepler) – Tax Map #58.-1-34.2 (107.50 acres) Total Acreage: 107.50

White Oak Apiary (Michael Bruen) – Tax Map #57.-2-46.2 (1.14 acres) Total Acreage: 1.14

Total acreage in petitions: 604.40

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 25 AA of the Agriculture and Market Law, section 303-b, a public hearing on the requests was conducted by the Putnam County Legislature on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board considered the requests for inclusion and reported that certain parcels applying for inclusion would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the District and recommended the inclusion of said parcels in the Putnam County Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee of the Putnam County Legislature reviewed and considered the recommendations made by the Putnam County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has considered the comments of the speakers at the public hearing, the recommendations of the Putnam County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, the recommendations of the Physical Services Committee, the various letters in support and in opposition to the inclusion of these parcels in the modification of the Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee approved the recommendations of the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board recommendations, as well as, Clara Patunga Farm and Reinmaker Farm for a total acreage of 410.08 to be considered for inclusion in the Agricultural District by the Full Legislature; and

WHEREAS, upon consideration, the Putnam County Legislature divided the question voting separately on all Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board recommendations as a whole, and Clara Patunga Farm and Reinmaker Farm separately as recommended and approved by the Physical Services Committee; and

WHEREAS, by Roll Call Vote to include Clara Patunga Farm: Two Ayes – Legislators Crowley and Gouldman. Five Nays – Legislators Ellner, Jonke, Montgomery, Russo and Chairwoman Sayegh. Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham were absent. Motion Failed; and

WHEREAS, by Roll Call Vote to include Reinmaker Farm: Three Ayes – Legislators Crowley, Gouldman and Jonke. Three Nays – Legislators Montgomery, Russo and Chairwoman Sayegh. One Abstention – Legislator Ellner. Legislators Addonizio and Birmingham were absent. Motion Failed; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature accepts and adopts the findings provided by the Putnam County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board and the amendments made during the Physical Services Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature hereby includes in the Putnam County Agricultural District the following Tax Map identified parcels:

Town of Kent:

Bowen Farm, LLC. (Robert Rudemyer, Jr.) – Tax Map #12.-3-71 (26.73 acres)

Town of Patterson:

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-4-56 (22.49 acres) Total Acreage 22.49

Town of Putnam Valley:

Big Red Barn Farm (Joey Mancuso) – Tax Map #72.16-1-1 (67.05 acres) Total Acreage: 67.05

Cucumber Hill Farm (Justin Baker) – Tax Map #84.-2-41 (28.85 acres) Total Acreage 28.85

The Rush Family Farm (Francis W. Rush III) - Tax Map #83.20-1-6 (33.00 acres) Total Acreage: 33.00

Town of Southeast:

Barndog LLC (Wendy Janesky) – Tax Map #80.1-3.1 (28.01 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.2 (32.48 acres) Tax Map #80.-1-3.3 (5.00 acres) Total Acreage 65.49

Lobster Hill Farm (Jessica & Andrew Jarrett) – Tax Map #35.-1-10 (56.13 acres) Total Acreage: 56.13

White Oak Apiary (Michael Bruen) – Tax Map #57.-2-46.2 (1.14 acres) Total Acreage: 1.14

For a Total of 300.88 acres to be included.

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

Item #6r - Approval – Appointments – Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Crowley and Jonke, Legislator Ellner brought forward the following:

Legislator Crowley thanked the volunteers for their time.

Legislator Montgomery thanked Max Garfinkle for his service on the Soil & Water Board. She stated that she was honored to support the appointments of Cassandra Roth and Brett Yarris.

Legislator Russo also thanked Max for his time and commitment while serving on this Board. She believed that both Cassandra and Brett would be an asset to this Board. She looked forward to working with them.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that she was glad to see that we have some great representatives to serve on the Board.

RESOLUTION #186

APPROVAL – APPOINTMENTS – PUTNAM COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD

RESOLVED, that the following be appointed to the Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District Board:

Cassandra Roth, Town of Pawling, Farm Bureau Representative, for a three (3) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2027.

Brett Yarris, Town of Carmel, member at large, to fill the unexpired term of Max Emerson Garfinkle, said term to expire December 31, 2026.

And be it further

RESOLVED, that these appointments comply 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 & BIRMINGHAM WERE ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

**HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Ellner & Russo)**

Item #6s - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A054) – Health – Donation from Nuvance Health – Tick Removal Kits was next. Chairwoman Sayegh recognized Legislator Russo, a member of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Chairwoman Addonizio and Legislator Ellner, Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #187

**APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A054) – HEALTH – DONATION FROM
NUVANCE HEALTH – TICK REMOVAL KITS**

WHEREAS, the Health Department received a check from Nuvance Health in the amount of \$3,000 to help offset the cost of Tick Removal Kits that the Putnam County Department of Health provides to the public at no cost; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Director has requested a budgetary amendment (25A054) to account for this donation; 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:

Increase Revenues:

21401000 427701	Health Education – Unclassified	3,000
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Increase Expenses:

21401000 54329	Health Education – Promotional	3,000
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

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

Item #6t - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A050) – Finance – Legal Aid Society – Indigent Legal Services was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #188

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A050) – FINANCE – LEGAL AID SOCIETY – INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (25A050) to account for the NYS Indigent Legal Services Distribution #14 contract; and

WHEREAS, the contract term runs from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026, and the County acts as a pass through for these funds; 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:

25117000 54950	Legal Aid Society	242,118
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Increase Revenue:

25117000 430251	State Aid – Indigent Legal Services	242,118
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6u - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A056) – Sheriff's Office – Automotive Insurance Recovery was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #189

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A056) – SHERIFF'S OFFICE – AUTOMOTIVE INSURANCE RECOVERY

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a budgetary amendment (25A056) to recognize reimbursement from Travelers Insurance Co. for damages to a 2023 Ford Interceptor in the Sheriff's BCI fleet for an accident that occurred on March 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, 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 426801	Sheriff BCI – Insurance Recoveries	4,465.21
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Increase Expenses:

32311000 54370	Sheriff BCI – Automotive	4,465.21
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2025 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #6v - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A057) – Youth Bureau – Amend Capital Project 52510 – Youth Bureau Relocation – Tilly Foster Farm was next. On behalf of the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Crowley, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery explained that she was thrilled the Youth Bureau will have a renovated space at Tilly Foster Farm.

Chairwoman Sayegh believed this was a testament to Putnam County's commitment to our youth by sharing Tilly Foster Farm with our children.

RESOLUTION #190

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A057) – YOUTH BUREAU – AMEND CAPITAL PROJECT 52510 – YOUTH BUREAU RELOCATION – TILLY FOSTER FARM

WHEREAS, the Capital Project Committee approved \$125,000 for a 2025 Capital Project 52510 – Youth Bureau Reallocation; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #147 of 2025, the Putnam County Legislature approved a request for additional funding of \$190,000 to proceed with this project and realize the desired completion date of August 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Youth Bureau has requested a budgetary amendment (25A057) for additional funding of \$95,000 to purchase new furniture, outdoor umbrellas and area rugs, four (4) Smart TVs with four (4) Logitech conference room cameras and three (3) additional networked phones; and

WHEREAS, also included is a small 2.5% contingency for any other small items that may be needed once everything has arrived and is installed; 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:

CAPITAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Revenues:

55197000 428601 52510	Transfer In – General Fund	95,000
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Increase Appropriations:

55197000 53000 52510	Capital Exp – Youth Bureau Reallocation	95,000
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GENERAL FUND:

Decrease Appropriations:

10199000 54980	General Contingencies	95,000
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Increase Appropriations:

10990100 59020	Transfer Out – Capital Fund	95,000
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2025 Fiscal Impact - \$95,000

2026 Fiscal Impact – 0 –

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

Item #7 – Other Business

There was no other business submitted to the meeting.

Item #8 – Recognition of Public on Agenda Items

Linda Harris, Town of Carmel, stated she would like to discuss agenda Item #6h – Approval - Putnam Arts Council Grants for 2025. She proceeded to address political concerns she had with the recent primary of a Legislator, and things that were brought up about the Putnam Arts Council Grant.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated this was a political mailer and did not pertain to the approval of Item #6h.

Ms. Harris continued to voice her concerns.

Brett Yarris, Resident of Carmel Hamlet, thanked the Legislature for his appointment to the Soil and Water Board. He proceeded to explain that the Legislators voted unanimously on all agenda items except for the two (2) farms that were not recommended by the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. He noted that all the agenda items, along with the two (2) farm votes, were bipartisan. He believed that the Legislature was a great example of not getting pushed into division and distraction with what is going on in the news. He again thanked the Legislature.

Eileen McDermott, Resident of the Village of Brewster, questioned if there is a rule prohibiting naming or speaking directly to certain Legislators.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that this was the comment period on agenda items.

Ms. McDermott stated she is addressing agenda Item #6h – Approval - Putnam Arts Council Grants for 2025 and will be discussing a similar topic to what Linda Harris discussed.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated she appreciates Linda Harris' remarks; however, this public comment session is to discuss the agenda items and not political concerns.

Ms. McDermott wanted to address political concerns with the recent primary, along with her concerns with a specific Legislator. She proceeded to read her statement.

Item #9 – Recognition of Legislators

Legislator Montgomery thanked the intern from Puerto Rico who was shadowing her this past week. She thanked him for making her work harder and opening her eyes to a territory that doesn't have libraries or fund education and the things that she realized she takes for granted here in Putnam County.

Legislator Jonke reminded everyone about the fireworks event this Sunday at the Highlands shopping area in the Town of Southeast. He encouraged the public to attend.

Chairwoman Sayegh explained that she was disappointed with this election season with the political negativity. She believed that we were better than that. She congratulated all the candidates who won the Primary. She hoped in the future we could have campaigns that we can all be proud of as Americans.

There being no further business, at 8:31 P.M., Chairwoman Sayegh made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.