

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

Tuesday April 7, 2026 7:00 P.M.

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

PROCLAMATIONS

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Gouldman, who presented the “Alcohol Awareness Month” proclamation to representatives of the Prevention Council of Putnam and the County’s recovery services. The representatives thanked the Legislature and emphasized that alcohol remains the substance most commonly used by young people and a frequent concern among adults seeking recovery services.

Alcohol Awareness Month

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Russo, who presented the “Autism Acceptance Month” proclamation to representatives of local autism service providers. The representatives thanked the Legislature and emphasized the dignity, value and inclusion of individuals with autism.

Autism Acceptance Month

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Sayegh, who presented the “Child Abuse Prevention Month” proclamation to representatives of the Child Advocacy Center and Department of Social Services. The representatives thanked the Legislature and stated that adults share responsibility for protecting children and providing trusted support.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Russo, who presented the “Donate Life Month” proclamation to County Clerk Michael Bartolotti and a representative of LiveOnNY. The speakers encouraged residents to enroll as organ donors and described the life-saving importance of organ donation.

Donate Life Month

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator D'Angelo, who presented the "Healthy Teen Brain Day" proclamation to Youth Bureau Director Janeen Cunningham and representatives of the Prevention Council of Putnam. They described prevention programs that encourage healthy decisions while the adolescent brain continues to develop.

Healthy Teen Brain Day – April 20, 2026

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Montgomery, who presented the "National Library Week" proclamation to Putnam County library directors and trustees.

Legislator Montgomery and the library representatives described libraries as centers for learning, community connection, emergency support and access to practical resources.

National Library Week – April 19 – 25, 2026

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Regan, who presented the "National Telecommunicators' Week" proclamation to representatives of the Bureau of Emergency Services and the 911 Communications Center. The speakers recognized dispatchers as first responders whose training, calm judgment and accurate information protect the public and responding agencies.

National Telecommunicators' Week – April 12 – 18, 2026

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator D'Angelo, who read the "Peers Influence Peers Partnership Month" proclamation. No representatives of the organization were present.

Peers Influence Peers Partnership Month

Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Montgomery, who presented the "Teen Driver Safety Awareness Month" proclamation to representatives of the Sheriff's Office.

Legislator Montgomery and the representatives emphasized education, prevention and the responsibility involved in teaching new drivers.

Teen Driver Safety Awareness Month

Item #4 – Acceptance of Minutes – Special Full Minutes – October 14, 2025

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #5 – Correspondence

a) Report of the County Auditor pursuant to the Real Property Tax Law – Duly Noted.

Item #6 – Pre-filed resolutions:

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Sayegh, Legislators Birmingham & Gouldman)**

Item #6a - Approval – Putnam Arts Council Grants For 2026 was next. Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Sayegh, Chairwoman of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee. On behalf of the members of the Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Gouldman, Legislator Sayegh moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery stated that the \$15,000 County contribution would be distributed among seven organizations. She noted that requests exceeded \$100,000 within Putnam County. She spoke to the fact that studies show the value of having the arts in a community. She stated an investment in the arts is an investment in local businesses, tourism, youth engagement and community well-being. She stated her hope is that Putnam County can offer even more support to the arts in future.

Legislator Addonizio agreed that the arts are of great value to a community as they enrich, and strengthen the community, its economy and quality of life.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that the Arts Link program also included \$85,000 from the New York State Council and will go towards the arts in Putnam County. She expressed her agreement with Legislators Montgomery and Addonizio that investing in the Arts brings numerous advantages to our county and acts as a catalyst to economic growth. She stated her appreciation to the Putnam Arts Council for their years of efforts that support the arts in Putnam County.

RESOLUTION #58

APPROVAL – PUTNAM ARTS COUNCIL GRANTS FOR 2026

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2026, the Putnam Arts Council reported to the Putnam County Legislature their recommendations for distribution of the 2026 Arts Link Community Regrant Program (formerly Putnam Arts Fund) totaling \$15,000; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature accepts and approves the recommendation of the Putnam Arts Council dated February 12, 2026, distribution of \$15,000 for the 2026 Arts Link Community Regrant Program for the first round of applications pursuant to the attached list.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6b - Approval/ Re-Appointments / Putnam County Home Improvement Board was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Gouldman, Legislator Sayegh moved the following:

RESOLUTION #59

**APPROVAL/ RE-APPOINTMENTS/ PUTNAM COUNTY HOME IMPROVEMENT BOARD/
CUSANELLI, HARNISH, HULL, & LYONS**

RESOLVED, that the following be re-appointed to the Putnam County Home Improvement Board:

Christoper Cusanelli, Town of Southeast, as an Engineer, for a two (2) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2027.

Paul Harnish, Town of Carmel, as a Contractor, for a two (2) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2027.

Charles Hull, Town of Carmel, as a Citizen Representative, for a two (2) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2027.

Christopher Lyons, Town of Southeast, as a Tradesman, for a two (2) year term, said term to expire December 31, 2027.

And be it further

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

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6c : Discussion/ Local Law Providing For A Counsel To The County Legislature was next.

Chairman Birmingham explained that the item was for discussion only because the local law in its final form had not been delivered to all Legislators within the required period of time. He stated for the record that he takes the blame for missing the deadline. He stated that a Special Full Meeting would be held the following evening for further discussion and a vote. He stated he certainly did not want to stifle discussion this evening from his colleagues on this item, however he wanted to make it clear that it is only on for discussion.

Legislator Montgomery stated that the proposal followed lengthy discussion and compromise and that its central purpose was to preserve an independent legislative branch with access to independent counsel. She stated that the current drafted local law would establish counsel independent of the Executive Branch, and available to all Legislators. She stated that it has required compromise on her part and requests that her colleagues do the same. She stated in order to move forward she has compromised and is willing to support the proposal made by Legislator D'Angelo. She stated this proposal also includes for the Legislature to retain independent counsel if there is a direct conflict with the County Executive.

Legislator D'Angelo stated that the amended draft being considered differed materially from his original proposal, and therefore would not refer to it as his proposal. He stated it has been a goal of this Legislature long before he was elected into office to obtain independent counsel. He explained it is stated already in the County Charter that when there is a conflict between the County Legislature and County Executive the County Attorney is required to represent the County Legislature. He stated that it is already in place. He stated this proposal to allot the Legislature to retain independent counsel in the case of said conflict creates questions that are not addressed and he sees this as a short-sighted proposal. He stated he would not be supporting this proposal at the referenced Special Full Meeting.

A LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR A COUNSEL TO THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings and Determinations. The Legislature of the County of Putnam, New York, hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

1. that the system of checks and balances inherent in the separation of powers of each branch of the government is vitally important to prevent the concentration of power in any one branch of government, thereby protecting individual liberties and preventing one branch of government from having supremacy over another; and
2. that in order for the County Legislature to have the capacity to prepare legislation independent of, as well as in cooperation with, the Executive Branch, the County Legislature hereby finds that given the separate branches of County Government, the County Legislature requires Counsel to the County Legislature which is separate from and not dependent upon the approval and resources of the County Executive and Executive Branch; and
3. that the Putnam County Legislature hereby finds and determines that the interests and requirements of legislative responsibility and authority will be better served by the creation of the position of Counsel to the County Legislature; and
4. that the Putnam County Legislature hereby determines that the interests and requirements of legislative responsibility and authority will be better served by Counsel to the County Legislature providing advice and recommendations to the members of the County Legislature in the drafting of legislation and otherwise and, as desired, in cooperation and consultation with the County Attorney and the Department of Law, provided that such cooperation shall not create or imply any supervisory authority of the County Attorney over such counsel because the role is internal to the legislature, and advisory in nature and therefore in no way contravenes County Law §501 or Article 8 of the Putnam County Code; and

5. that the requisite checks and balances will be adequately served and satisfied by the oversight and advice of risk management in consultation with our insurance carrier, when and if appropriate.

Section 2. Establishment.

There is hereby established the position of Counsel to the County Legislature. Counsel to the County Legislature shall be selected by and then hired by the legislature in the manner provided herein, shall have the role and function provided herein, and such position shall be an employee of the County Legislature and not of the Department of Law established under Article 8 of this Charter. Such position will be selected by simple majority upon a vote. Removal can also be effected by simple majority vote as this will be an at-will position.

Section 3. Method of Selection and Tenure.

1. At the annual Organizational Meeting of the County Legislature for the year 2027, or as soon as practicable thereafter, there, annually, shall be selected a Counsel to the County Legislature to be selected in executive session by the simultaneous presentation of all candidates to the entire board along with a representative of the Personnel Department and the Legislative Clerk, and the prevailing candidate shall win by simple majority vote, vacancies shall be filled in this same manner. Removal of Counsel to the County Legislature may also be accomplished by a simple majority vote. Prior to January 1, 2027, Counsel to the County Legislature shall be selected in the same manner as a vacancy.
2. Counsel to the County Legislature shall hold his or her office until a successor has been appointed.
3. At the time of his/her appointment, and throughout his/her time in office, the Counsel to the County Legislature shall be duly admitted to practice law in the State of New York.

Section 4. Scope and Role of the position Counsel to the Legislature:

1. Oversee the preparation of local laws, ordinances, acts and resolutions upon receipt of a request.
2. Research problems related to the function, powers and duties of the County Legislature and its employees.
3. Prepare written reports on the breadth and depth of the function, powers and duties of the County Legislature and its employees.
4. As requested by any Legislator, attend full Legislative meetings, special meetings and committee meetings.
5. Provide advice to the members of the County Legislature on Rules of Order, general parliamentary procedure, and other procedural questions as they arise or as requested during Legislative meetings.
6. Recommend procedures in connection with the implementation of policy for the County Legislature.
7. Recommend and coordinate appropriate ways to communicate initiatives and policies of the County Legislature through media and other mechanisms.
8. Perform a variety of related activities as required, not inconsistent with Section 501 of the County Law and the provisions of the County Charter, and the Putnam County Code.
9. Counsel shall be available to provide advisory services to all members of the Legislature.
10. Requests for legislative drafting or advisory services shall remain confidential to the requesting legislator unless otherwise authorized by such requesting legislator.

Section 5. Independence and limitations.

The Counsel to the County Legislature shall not be part of, supervised by, or subject to removal by the Department of Law or the County Attorney. Counsel to the County Legislature shall be strictly advisory and legislative in nature. Counsel to the County Legislature shall not appear as attorney of record for the County or in any court or administrative proceeding, nor represent the County in litigation or claims. Nothing herein shall affect the authority or responsibilities of the County Attorney under Article 8 of the County Charter, including representation of the County and the Legislature in legal proceedings, except as hereinafter provided.

Section 6. Conflicts.

Section 8.05 of the County Charter is hereby amended by adding the following unenumerated paragraph:

In the event of a direct conflict between the County Legislature and the County Executive in any legal action or proceeding, the Legislature may retain independent legal counsel by resolution.

Section 7. Severability and Enactment.

If any provision of this Local Law is held to be illegal or invalid for any reason by court of law, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof, but such provision shall be fully severable, and this Local Law shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had never been included.

Section 8. Effective Date.

Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.

Item #6d - Approval/ Amendment of Legislative Manual – Process For Proclamations was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Gouldman, Legislator Sayegh moved the following:

Legislator D'Angelo stated that proclamations had historically lacked a formal process and expressed concern that the proposed guidelines followed rejection of a proclamation he had submitted concerning interference with law enforcement. He spoke to the incident in his district that motivated his request for the proclamation that was rejected.

Legislator Gouldman stated that the existing process was not broken, warned that rigid rules could prevent appropriate recognition, and urged that his colleagues not to support this proposal. He stated that he would not be supporting this proposal.

Legislator Montgomery supported clearer standards, stating that proclamations presented at Legislative meetings should celebrate achievements and promote positive public-awareness initiatives. She spoke to her belief that as a Legislator when there is an issue that she wants to make statements about she exercises her right to protest or host/attend rallies.

Legislator Russo stated this evening there were several proclamations given of which she was proud to be a part of offering recognition to the very deserving recipients. She stated she does not support unnecessarily limiting proclamations. She stated that she would support a deadline for when an organization can request a proclamation, permitting the Legislative staff adequate time to get them prepared. She stated her agreement with Legislator Gouldman's sentiments.

Legislator Montgomery stated the current process puts the approval authority of proclamations to be placed on the meeting agendas with the Chair of the Legislature. She requested clarification that what is being proposed with this process would eliminate that.

Chairman Birmingham explained it would alter that. He stated the measure would establish a structure concerning timing, frequency and subject matter and stated that he supported it. He stated further that he will be in support of the proposal for various reasons.

Legislator Addonizio stated in all the years that she has been on the Legislature, proclamations have been a way for the Legislature to recognize achievements, and organizations. She stated the proposal does not see it changing any of that. She requested confirmation.

Chairman Birmingham stated this proposal is one that would put a structure in place as mentioned, concerning timing, frequency and subject matter.

RESOLUTION #60

APPROVAL - AMENDMENT OF LEGISLATIVE MANUAL – PROCESS FOR PROCLAMATIONS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature recognizes importance and value of the presentation of Proclamations, as they are a formal statement issued to recognize and honor a group event or cause ; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature is committed to establishing a process for the submission of a Proclamation to be considered to be presented at a meeting of the Legislature; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature directs the implementation of the following process for the submission and consideration of a Proclamation for signature by the Legislative Branch and Executive Branch of the Putnam County Government by incorporating the following as a new item under I. Functions of the Legislature in the Legislative Manual:

I. FUNCTIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE –

T. The Legislature shall also be responsible for issuing proclamations, as it deems appropriate.

1. Proclamations under this section are defined as ceremonial documents issued for the purpose of celebrating and recognizing achievements, and/or to issue public awareness of positive initiatives or actors within the County.
2. Proclamations are subject to the following criteria and guidelines:
 - i. Proclamations must be sought by the group or entity or a constituent seeking to have such person or entity recognized, or may be sought by any individual legislator on their behalf

- ii. Proclamations may be sought for a day, week, or month that holds significance either for the cause or event being recognized or by any local, state, or governmental entity or agency.
 - iii. Certificates of Recognition or congratulatory letters may issue for individuals or private businesses, but proclamations by their nature are for group achievements or public awareness purposes.
 - iv. There is no exclusive right to any selected time frame.
 - v. Proclamations are not subject to automatic renewal.
 - vi. The legislature is under no obligation to accept more than one such request within a calendar year, but is not prohibited from honoring such requests in its discretion.
 - vii. Subjects of great controversy, that are polarizing by their nature, and represent ideological beliefs are not appropriate for proclamations or recognitions.
 - viii. Proclamations will not issue for the purpose of stating a County position on a matter.
 - ix. Proclamations will not issue if there is no nexus to the County, its constituents, or a benefit to the County.
 - x. The County's policy, procedures, and the well-being of its constituents shall never be violated by any proclamation or recognition.
3. Requests must be made in writing, no less than 30 days prior, and no more than 6 months prior to the requested date of the proclamation, and must include:
- i. Contact information, and a list of all individuals who will appear to accept the recognition with their title.
 - ii. Three paragraphs beginning with WHEREAS, that state the background of the reason for the recognition.
 - iii. Day, week, or month to be proclaimed.
 - iv. How you would like to receive the proclamation: (1) legislative meeting, (2) special event (subject to legislative availability), (3) by mail, or (4) by email.
 - v. Date needed.

and be it further

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

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. THREE NAYS -LEGISLATORS D'ANGELO, GOULDMAN & RUSSO. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABESENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6e – Approval/ Local Law To Amend The Code of The County of Putnam By Adding Chapter 222, Entitled “Taxpayer Transparency” was next. On behalf of the members of the Rules, Enactments & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Legislators Birmingham and Gouldman, Chairwoman Sayegh moved the following:

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that much of the proposal was drawn from model legislation of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). She stated that Putnam County already has a focus on transparency and maintains a searchable budget database and the Legislative meetings are livestreamed. She expressed her position further as to why she would not be supporting this proposed legislation.

Legislator Montgomery stated her concerns with the fact that the proposed legislation came from ALEC website. She stated her support for transparency but stated that the proposal should be tailored to Putnam County. She expressed concern with the structure of the legislation. She stated in her opinion this legislation would be giving the Executive Branch control over the structure and presentation of the database without sufficient Legislative oversight. She concluded by expressing her support of this matter of transparency, but she does not believe what is being proposed is balanced and representing the people of Putnam County.

Legislator D'Angelo stated he does not see what is so controversial if the County already does all of this. He explained the codification would protect transparency practices for future Legislatures. He stated he is familiar with ALEC and has no hesitation about what is being proposed because it is in line with that organization. He stated he would be supporting this proposal.

Legislator Regan stated his opinion is that the proposal was too limited to constitute meaningful taxpayer transparency and objected to directing the Commissioner of Finance to maintain a website. He stated he does not believe that is the responsibility of the Commissioner of Finance. He stated he would not be voting in support.

Legislator Addonizio stated that the County already livestreamed meetings and that the Commissioner of Finance had expressed concern about the database requirement.

Legislator Russo stated that her purpose was to clarify and preserve the practices for future Legislatures.

Legislator Gouldman supported codifying livestreaming and transparency requirements.

RESOLUTION - Failed

APPROVAL/ LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM BY ADDING CHAPTER 222, ENTITLED "TAXPAYER TRANSPARENCY"

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

Section I.

Chapter 222 of the Code of the County of Putnam is hereby added as provided hereinafter:

CHAPTER 222

TAXPAYER TRANSPARENCY

§ 222-1 Title.

§ 222-2 Legislative intent.

§ 222-3 Searchable budget database website created.

§ 222-4 Electronic public access to meetings and information

§ 222-5 Severability.

§ 222-6 Repealer.

§ 222-1 Title.

This chapter of the Code of Putnam County shall be entitled and known as the “Taxpayer Transparency Act.”

§ 222-2 Legislative intent.

The Legislature finds that taxpayers should have easy access to information on how the County is spending their tax dollars, what performance results are achieved for those expenditures, and the legislative process in general regarding County spending. It is further the intent that this access can be achieved by transparency in the County budget process, including a searchable budget database website and easier access to Legislative meetings and public hearings through live streaming to the public.

§ 222-3 Searchable budget database website

The Commissioner of Finance shall maintain and make publicly available a single, searchable budget database website including the required data for the most recent County budget. The website shall be given a unique website address and a link to that address shall be on the County’s official website.

§ 222-4 Electronic public access to meetings and information.

A. The Putnam County Legislature shall make all meetings of the Legislature or its subcommittees available for public viewing by live video stream whenever practicable. A link to the live stream shall be conspicuously posted and made available on the Legislature’s website at least eight (8) hours prior to the meeting whenever practicable.

B. Except in the case of executive sessions held pursuant to N.Y.S. Open Meetings Law § 105, the Legislature shall ensure that members can be heard, seen, and identified at all times, when the meeting is being conducted, including but not limited to any motions, proposals, resolutions, and any other matter formally discussed or voted upon.

C. Whenever practicable, all public hearings held by the County Executive pursuant to § 3.04-B of the Charter shall be available for public viewing by live stream.

D. Each meeting or hearing that is live streamed shall be recorded and such recordings linked or posted online within five (5) business days following the meeting/hearing and shall remain so available for a minimum of five (5) years thereafter.

§ 222-5 Severability.

If any part or provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved

in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this chapter or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances. The County of Putnam hereby declares that it would have passed this chapter or the remainder thereof had such invalid application or invalid provision been apparent.

§ 222-6 Repealer.

All ordinances, local laws, and parts thereof inconsistent with this chapter are hereby repealed; provided, however, that such repeal shall not affect or impair any act done or right accruing, accrued, or acquired, or penalty, charge, liability, forfeiture, or punishment incurred or owing prior to the time such repeal takes effect, but the same may be enjoyed, asserted, collected, enforced, prosecuted, or inflicted as fully and to the same extent as if such repeal had not been effected. All actions and proceedings, civil or criminal, commenced under or by virtue of any provision of any County of Putnam local law, ordinance or resolution so repealed, and pending immediately prior to the taking effect of such repeal, may be prosecuted and defended to final effect in the same manner as they might if such provisions were not so repealed.

Section II.

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

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FOUR AYES. FOUR NAYS -LEGISLATORS ADDONIZIO, MONTGOMERY, REGAN & SAYEGH. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABESENT. MOTION FS.

PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (Chairman Gouldman, Legislators Regan & Sayegh)

Item #6f - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A016) – Commissioner of Finance - To Change Funding Source of the DSS Security Capital Project Approved in the 2026 Capital Budget - was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Regan and Sayegh, Chairman Gouldman moved the following:

RESOLUTION #61

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A016) – COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE- TO CHANGE FUNDING SOURCE OF THE DSS SECURITY CAPITAL PROJECT APPROVED IN THE 2026 CAPITAL BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (26A016) to change the funding source of the DSS Security Capital Project Approved in the 2026 Capital Budget from Borrowed Funds to the Capital Projects Reserve; 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:

GENERAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

10990100 59020	Transfer to Capital Fund	800,000
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

10131000 427112	Use of Capital Reserve	800,000
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CAPITAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Revenues:

55197000 428601 52603	Transfer From General Fund	800,000
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Decrease Estimated Revenues:

05000 45710Q 52603	Bond Proceeds – 2026	800,000
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2026 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

2027 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6g – Approval – Budgetary Transfer (26T039) – To Fund The County Vehicle GPS System was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Regan and Sayegh, Chairman Gouldman moved the following:

RESOLUTION #62

APPROVAL - BUDGETARY TRANSFER (26T039) TO FUND THE COUNTY VEHICLE GPS SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Director of IT/GIS requested budgetary Transfer (26T039) to fund The County Vehicle GPS System; and

WHEREAS, the in-vehicle video, and real-time vehicle diagnostics will provide centralized oversight of County-owned vehicles, including those operated by the Department of Public Works (DPW), Transit, and the Office for Senior Resources (OSR); and

WHEREAS, the Physical Services Committee and Audit & Administration Committee have reviewed and approved said budgetary transfer; now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

10161000 54560	Equipment Rental	120,000
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**Decrease Estimated Appropriations:
10161000 54371**

Gasoline

120,000

2026 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

2027 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6h. - Approval – Conveyance Of A Certain County Property To The Town of Carmel Pursuant To Chapter 31 Of The Putnam County Code/Carmel TM # 64.7-1-5 - was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Regan and Sayegh, Chairman Gouldman moved the following:

RESOLUTION #63

APPROVAL/CONVEYANCE OF A CERTAIN COUNTY PROPERTY TO THE TOWN OF CARMEL PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 31 OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY CODE/CARMEL TM # 64.7-1-5

WHEREAS, by tax deed dated December 2, 1983, which was recorded in the office of the Putnam County Clerk at Liber 804, Page 151, the County of Putnam acquired title to a certain 8,600 (apx.) square foot parcel designated as Town of Carmel Tax Map # 64.7-1-5 (the “Parcel”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution # 174 of 1999 of the Putnam County Legislature, the Parcel was designated as green space and made a part of the Kirk Lake Conservation Area; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carmel (“Town”), through the Town Supervisor, has requested that the County convey the Parcel to the Town so that the Town may use said Parcel for the purpose of completing the Stocum Avenue Bridge replacement project, which involves the replacement of a certain culvert near Kirk Lake that was severely damaged by a storm event affecting the region on July 9, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Town will thereafter continue to maintain the Parcel as green space and as a public access area to Kirk Lake; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County Code § 31-8 permits such a conveyance when it is for public use and in the best interests of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has determined that conveying the Parcel to the Town for the aforementioned purpose constitutes a public use and is in the best interests of the County; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Parcel, designated as Town of Carmel Tax Map # 64.7-1-5 be conveyed to the Town of Carmel to be used for public use; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 31-8(B) of the Putnam County Code, the Putnam County Legislature approves the transfer of the Parcel to the Town of Carmel for the cost of any recording fees associated with the conveyance; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Parcel shall be conveyed to the Town of Carmel in an “as is” condition by Quitclaim deed; and be it further

REOLVED, that such conveyance shall be subject to a reversionary interest wherein title to the Parcel shall automatically revert back to the County in the event that it is utilized by the Town for purposes other than completing the Stocum Avenue Bridge replacement project and thereafter as green space with public access to Kirk Lake; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Attorney is authorized to prepare said Quitclaim deed for the Parcel, which shall contain the reverter clause required herein, and the Putnam County Executive shall be authorized to execute said Quitclaim deed on behalf of the County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Attorney is hereby authorized to take whatever action is necessary in order to effectuate this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6i. - Approval / Ratification of Application For 2026 Grant Funds Available Through The New York State County Infrastructure Grant Program - was next. On behalf of the members of the Physical Services Committee, Legislators Regan and Sayegh, Chairman Gouldman moved the following:

RESOLUTION #64

APPROVAL/ RATIFICATION OF APPLICATION FOR 2026 GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE NEW YORK STATE COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, under New York’s County Infrastructure Grant Program, Empire State Development will provide grants to support county-led infrastructure projects across the State which directly or indirectly support economic development, support the creation of housing, contribute to placemaking, or encourage tourism; and

WHEREAS, the County Infrastructure Grant Program grant funding will fund projects that do not directly support the creation of at least (10) ten new housing units for an award up to \$500,000. All projects that directly support the creation of at least (10) ten new housing units, are eligible for an award up to \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, there is a minimum 50% non-ESD match and a non-refundable \$250 application fee required; and

WHEREAS, an application from each County must be submitted by Wednesday, April 1, 2026 to apply the funding to an eligible project; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County is an active partner with local municipalities in the economic vitality of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County is desirous to sponsor a funding application towards supporting road and drainage infrastructure for a market-rate 40-unit housing development; and

WHEREAS, there would be no fiscal impact to the County; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature, by and through the Physical Services Committee, approves and agrees to the County's sponsoring and applying for the NYS County Infrastructure Grant Program for the Town of Carmel Housing development; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature, together with the County Executive, supports, ratifies and approves the County's pass-through application for NYS County Infrastructure Grant funding in connection with the road and drainage infrastructure costs associated with Carmel Residential Housing project to be formally submitted to Empire State Development on/before April 1, 2026.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

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

Item #6j. - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A010) – Department of Social Services (DSS) – NYS Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment Allocation - was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Russo, Chairwoman Montgomery moved the following:

RESOLUTION #65

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A010) – DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS) - NYS SHELTER ARREARS EVICTION FORESTALLMENT ALLOCATION

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Mental Health, Social Services and the Youth Bureau has requested Budgetary Amendment (26A010) to adjust the 2026 DSS State Aid Levels; and

WHEREAS, this will amend the 2026 DSS budget to include Putnam's revised NYS Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment allocation (26-LCM-01) received from the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (OTDA) in the amount of \$15,600; 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, 2026, and must be claimed by December 31, 2026; and

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

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

10101000 54989 10231	Shelter Arrears Assistance	15,600
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

10101000 436101 10231	State Aid – Shelter Arrears Assistance	15,600
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Fiscal Impact – 2026 - \$0

Fiscal Impact – 2027 - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. LEGISLATOR GOULDMAN WAS ABSENT FOR THE VOTE. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6k - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A015) –County Historian – Request Funding from the Gregory J. Amato Trust - was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Russo, Chairwoman Montgomery moved the following:

Legislator Sayegh recalled Gregory J. Amato’s dedication to local history and service through Rotary and stated that the trust contribution was an appropriate continuation of his work.

Chairman Birmingham recognized Mr. Amato’s service as a former Town of Carmel Police Chief and Town Historian and his work digitizing local yearbooks and preserving community history.

Legislator Addonizio also remembered Mr. Amato as a friend and fellow Rotarian.

RESOLUTION #66

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A015) –COUNTY HISTORIAN – REQUEST FUNDING FROM THE GREGORY J. AMATO TRUST

WHEREAS, the County Historian has requested Budgetary Amendment (26A015) to request the remaining proceeds from the Greg Amato Trust; and

WHEREAS, the funds would be used towards a newspaper digitization project to be used in 2026; and

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

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

10751000 54682	Special Services	835
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

10751000 427051	Gifts & Donations	835
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Fiscal Impact – 2026 - \$0

Fiscal Impact – 2027 - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6L - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A018) – Department of Social Services (DSS)- Adjust the DSS State Aid Levels – Office of Educational Opportunity Programs - was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Russo, Chairwoman Montgomery moved the following:

RESOLUTION #67

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A018) – DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS) - ADJUST THE DSS STATE AID LEVELS – OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Mental Health, Social Services and the Youth Bureau has requested Budgetary Amendment (26A018) to adjust the DSS State Aid Levels; and

WHEREAS, this will amend the 2026 DSS budget to include expenses funded in accordance with the contract extension awarded to the Child Advocacy Center for the period of 10/01/2025 – 09/30/2026; and

WHEREAS, the OVS01-11348GG-1080200 is a multi-year agreement awarded by the Office of Victim Services (OVS); and

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

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

22071000 52110	Furniture & Fixtures	2,500
22071000 52130	Computer Equipment	3,311
22071000 52180	Other Equipment	12,000
22071000 54510	Machine Maintenance	5,422
22071000 54640	Education & Training	5,932
22071000 54783	Licensing & Accessories	4,500
22071000 55870	Chargeback Auto	200
		33,865

Increase Estimated Revenues:

22071000 446131	State Aid – Office of Educational Opportunity Programs (OEOP)	33,865
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Crime Victims

Fiscal Impact – 2026 - \$0

Fiscal Impact – 2027 - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. LEGISLATOR D'ANGELO WAS ABSENT FOR THE VOTE. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6m - Approval / No-Match - Grant Application/ New York State 250th Commemoration Commission /Revolutionary Putnam County Committee Programming And Projects - was next. On behalf of the members of the Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Russo, Chairwoman Montgomery moved the following:

Legislator Sayegh expressed support for the Revolutionary Putnam County Committee's programming and for grant opportunities that would celebrate Putnam County's history during the nation's 250th anniversary. She recognized and complimented the Putnam County Historian on the great job she is doing recognizing this milestone in history.

RESOLUTION #68

APPROVAL/ NO-MATCH - GRANT APPLICATION/ NEW YORK STATE 250TH COMMEMORATION COMMISSION /REVOLUTIONARY PUTNAM COUNTY COMMITTEE PROGRAMMING AND PROJECTS

WHEREAS, Section 5-2(E) of the Putnam County Code provides that an applicant of any grant application that does not require local Putnam County ("the County") matching funds shall notify the Putnam County Legislature ("the Legislature") prior to the submission of a grant application and, further, if the Legislature objects to such grant application, the applicant shall not apply for said grant; and

WHEREAS, by and through the State of New York Education Department ("NYSED") and the New York State 250th Commemoration Commission, the County has the opportunity to apply for New York State 250th Commemoration funding to be allocated based on a K-12 enrollment formula (anticipated to be upwards of \$15,000) administered by the NYSED for public programming and county-wide projects relative to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and Declaration of Independence in 2026; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the grant funds is to subsidize the costs associated with the relative existing and upcoming public programming and county-wide projects; and

WHEREAS, there is no matching fund requirement by the County to accept the New York State 250th Commemoration Commission grant for the relative existing and upcoming public programming and county-wide projects; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Legislature authorizes and approves the County's submission, by the County Historian's Office, of its application for New York State 250th Commemoration funding administered through NYSED and awarded by the New York State 250th Commemoration Commission for the relative existing and upcoming public programming and county-wide projects; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BY POLL VOTE: SEVEN AYES. LEGISLATOR D'ANGELO WAS ABSENT FOR THE VOTE. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
(Chairman Regan, Legislators Addonizio & Montgomery)

Item #6n - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A017) –Director of Probation – Partnership Initiative – Ignition Interlock Device Enforcement Program (IIDEP) - was next. On behalf of the members of the Protective Services Committee, Legislators Addonizio and Montgomery, Chairman Regan moved the following:

RESOLUTION #69

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A017) –DIRECTOR OF PROBATION – PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE – IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (IIDEP)

WHEREAS, the Director of Probation has requested Budgetary Amendment (26A017) to account for the Ignition Interlock Grant awarded to Putnam County in the amount of \$35,000; and

WHEREAS, the funding is provided by a federal Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Grant and will be administered by the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS); and

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

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary amendment be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

10341000 54936 10238	Partnership Initiative - IIDEP	35,000
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Increase Estimated Revenues:

10341000 443105 10238	Federal Aid – IIDEP Grant	35,000
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Fiscal Impact – 2026 - \$0

Fiscal Impact – 2027 - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Russo & Sayegh)

Item #6o - Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A012) – Social Services - Child Advocacy Center – was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Russo and Sayegh, Legislator Addonizio moved the following:

RESOLUTION #70

APPROVAL/ BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A012)/ DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES/ CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Mental Health, Social Services and Youth Bureau has requested a budgetary amendment (26A012) to amend the 2026 Social Services budget to include expenses funded in accordance with the contract renewal awarded to the Child Advocacy Center for the period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, OCFS C030760 is a multi-year agreement awarded by the NYS Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS) for the period of 10/01/25 – 9/30/30; 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 Estimated Appropriations:

22070000 51000 (105) Stipend	Personnel Services -	3,000
	Coordinator Child Advocacy Center	
22070000 52170	Kitchen Equipment & Appliances	4,000
22070000 54310	Office Supplies	300
22070000 54560	Equipment Rental Lease	2,160
22070000 54640	Education & Training	9,763
22070000 55870	Chargeback – Auto	200
22070000 58002	FICA	230
		<u>19,653</u>

Increase Estimated Revenues:

22070000 436233	State Aid – Child Advocacy Center	19,653
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Fiscal Impact – 2026 - \$0

Fiscal Impact – 2027 - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6p – Approval – Budgetary Transfer (26T023) – Social Services – Pay Differential – Director of Eligibility - was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Russo and Sayegh, Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following:

RESOLUTION #71

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY TRANSFER (26T023) – SOCIAL SERVICES – PAY DIFFERENTIAL – DIRECTOR OF ELIGIBILITY

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Mental Health, Social Services and Youth Bureau has requested a Pay Differential related to backfill the Director of Eligibility during its vacancy from 03/01/2026 – 04/30/2026; and

WHEREAS, this will compensate the current Coordinator of Temporary Assistance for their efforts in management and execution of tasks and responsibilities to that of the Director of Eligibility; and

WHEREAS, the adjustment is requested at an annual rate of the 2026 Adopted Budget for position #601020110 for compensation of this PuMa title (\$8.2036 per hour); and

WHEREAS, to support the increase, funds are being utilized from a vacant Account Clerk II position within the Medicaid unit; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has prepared budgetary transfer (26T023) to account for this request; 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 Estimated Appropriations:
10120000 51091

Pay Differential 2,527

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:
10104000 51000 (130)

Personnel Services – 2,527
Vacant Account Clerk II

2026 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

2027 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6q – Approval / Budgetary Transfer (26T044)/ Sheriff’s Office /Allocate an Administrative Position from the BCI Division to the Civil Division - was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Russo and Sayegh, Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following:

RESOLUTION #72

APPROVAL/BUDGETARY TRANSFER (26T044) / SHERIFF’S OFFICE / REALLOCATE AN ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION FROM THE BCI DIVISION TO THE CIVIL DIVISION

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Sheriff has requested a budgetary transfer (26T044) to reallocate an administrative position from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation Division (BCI) to the Civil Division; and

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

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Increase Estimated Appropriations:

15311000 51000 (104)	Personnel Services – Senior Office Assistant – Civil Division	70,834
15311000 58001	Retirement	7,210
15311000 58002	FICA	5,419
15311000 58004	Workers Compensation	971
15311000 58006	Dental	2,065
15311000 58008	Health	16,050
15311000 58009	Vision	242
		102,791

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:

32311000 51000 (105)	Personnel Services – Senior Office Assistant - BCI	70,834
32311000 58001	Retirement	7,210
32311000 58002	FICA	5,419
32311000 58004	Workers Compensation	971
32311000 58006	Dental	2,065
32311000 58008	Health	16,050
32311000 58009	Vision	242
		102,791

2026 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

2027 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6r – Approval – Budgetary Transfer (26T045) – Department of Public Works – Reclassification Position from Senior Account Clerk to Principal Account Clerk- was next. On behalf of the members of the Personnel Committee, Legislators Russo and Sayegh, Chairwoman Addonizio moved the following:

RESOLUTION #73

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY TRANSFER (26T045) – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – RECLASS POSITION FROM SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK TO PRINCIPAL ACCOUNT CLERK

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Department of Public Works has requested a budgetary transfer (26T045) to reclass a position in the Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, the reclassification will be changing the title of the Senior Account Clerk to Principal Account Clerk; and

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

RESOLVED, that the following fund transfer be made:

Decrease:

10711000 51000 10130	Personnel – Senior Account Clerk	64,550
10711000 51000 10124	Personnel - Farm Assistant	4,326
		68,876

Increase:

10711000 51000 10131
10711000 51000 10131

Personnel – Principal Account Clerk
Personnel – Principal Account Clerk

64,550
4,326

68,876

2026 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

2027 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Russo, Legislators Crowley & D'Angelo)

Item #6s – Approval – Budgetary Amendment (26A011) – Tourism – Decrease in I Love NY Funding was next. On behalf of the members of the Economic Development & Energy Committee, Legislators Crowley and D'Angelo, Chairwoman Russo moved the following:

Legislator Montgomery stated that tourism funding should be considered as part of a broader strategy that also supports the municipalities affected by tourism, including their health and safety needs.

RESOLUTION #74

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (26A011) – TOURISM – DECREASE IN I LOVE NY FUNDING

WHEREAS, New York State reduced the amount awarded to Putnam County for the I Love NY Program by \$9,316.00; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Tourism has requested a budgetary amendment (26A01) to transfer the County's matching portion (\$9,316.00) of I Love NY funds into the Books & Supplements line and Advertising line; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development & Energy 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 Estimated Appropriations:

10641000 54313
10641000 54664

Books & Supplements
Advertising

8,000
1,316

9,316

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:

10641000 54328

I LOVE NY PROGRAM

18,632

Decrease Estimated Revenues:

10641000 437151

State Aid – I LOVE NY PROGRAM

9,316

2026 - Fiscal Impact - \$0
2027 - Fiscal Impact - \$0

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

AUDIT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
(Chairwoman Crowley, Legislators Regan & Russo)

Chairman Birmingham stated that in the absence of Legislator Crowley, who serves a Chairwoman of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Russo as a member of the committee would be addressing the items that came from the March Audit & Administration Committee Meeting.

Item #6t : Approval – Budgetary Amendment (25A128) – Finance – Year End Journal Entry #4 was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

Chairman Birmingham explained that the year-end journal entry reconciled County financial accounts in preparation for the annual audit and was part of the County's customary year-end process.

RESOLUTION #75

APPROVAL – BUDGETARY AMENDMENT (25A128) – FINANCE – YEAR END JOURNAL ENTRY #4

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Finance has requested a budgetary amendment (25A12) for the fourth Year End Journal Entry for the year ending December 31, 2025; 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 Estimated Appropriations:

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

136,683.00

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

87,000.00

Increase Estimated Revenues:

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

1,983,888.00

Decrease Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 1,934,205.00

ROAD FUND

Increase Estimated Appropriations:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 31,300.00

Increase Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 171,978.00

Decrease Estimated Revenues:
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 140,678.00

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

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6u – Approval – Local Law/Amend Chapter 41/Code Of Putnam County/ Entitled “Deposit And Investment Policy” was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and the members of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

Chairman Birmingham explained that the local law updated the name change of the Putnam County Savings Bank to its new name, Beacon Bank, and is therefore reflected in the amended Local Law. He stated said bank is an authorized depository. He stated the money is not moving this local law is clairifyin ght ename of the bank.

RESOLUTION #76

APPROVAL/LOCAL LAW/AMEND CHAPTER 41/CODE OF PUTNAM COUNTY/ ENTITLED “DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT POLICY”

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

Section 1.

Section 41-2 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-2 Objectives.

The primary objectives of the Putnam County's investment activities are, in priority order:

- A. To conform with all applicable federal, state and other legal requirements (legal).**
- B. To adequately safeguard principal (safety).**
- C. To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity).**
- D. To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).**

To appropriately meet these objectives, The County will make investment decisions based on categories of cash with which the time horizon is continually calculated using a liquidity analysis of past and anticipated future financial requirements.

Section 2.

Section 41-3 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-3 Delegation of authority and general intent of policy.

- A. Delegation of authority.** The administration of the investment program is delegated to the Commissioner of Finance, pursuant to § 4.02(a) of the Putnam County Charter. The Commissioner of Finance shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with these investment guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a data base or records incorporating description and amounts of investments, transaction dates and other relevant information, including dates of sale or other dispositions and amounts realized. In addition, the internal control procedures shall describe that responsibilities and levels of authority for key individuals involved in the investment program.
- B. General intent of policy.**
 - (1) Prudence.**
 - (a)** All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in Putnam County to govern effectively.
 - (b)** Investments shall be made with prudence, diligence, skill, judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which knowledgeable and prudent persons acting in like capacity would use, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived. All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.
 - (2) Diversification.** It is the policy of Putnam County to diversify its deposits and investments by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling. The Finance Officer shall establish appropriate limits for the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer, and shall evaluate this listing at least annually.

Section 3.

Section 41-5 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-5 Designation of official depositories.

The following list of banks and trust companies, and their successors and assigns, are authorized for the deposit of monies up to the maximum amounts:

Depository Name	Maximum Amount
Adirondack Bank	\$75,000,000
Bank of America	\$75,000,000
Bank of Greene County	\$75,000,000
Bank United	\$75,000,000
BankOnBuffalo	\$75,000,000
Beacon Bank	\$75,000,000
C&N	\$75,000,000
Canandaigua National Bank	\$75,000,000
Capital One Bank	\$75,000,000
Citizens Bank	\$75,000,000
Community Bank	\$75,000,000
Customers Bank	\$75,000,000
Evans Bank	\$75,000,000
Fairfield County Bank	\$75,000,000
Five Star	\$75,000,000
FlagStar Bank	\$75,000,000
Flushing	\$75,000,000
Genesee Regional Bank	\$75,000,000
Glens Falls National Bank and Trust/ Saratoga National Bank and Trust	\$75,000,000
Hanover Community Bank	\$75,000,000
JP Morgan Chase Bank NA	\$75,000,000
Lyons National Bank	\$75,000,000
M&T Bank	\$75,000,000
Metropolitan Bank	\$75,000,000
Modern Bank	\$75,000,000
NBT Bank	\$75,000,000
Pathfinder Bank	\$75,000,000
Pioneer Bank	\$75,000,000
Putnam County National Bank	\$75,000,000
Raymond James Bank	\$75,000,000
RBC	\$75,000,000
Santander Bank	\$75,000,000
Solvay Bank	\$75,000,000
TD Bank	\$75,000,000

Depository Name	Maximum Amount
Tioga Bank	\$75,000,000
Tompkins Mahopac National Bank	\$75,000,000
Upstate National Bank	\$75,000,000
Valley Bank	\$75,000,000
Wayne Bank	\$75,000,000

Section 4.

Section 41-6 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-6 Collateralizing of deposits.

In accordance with the provisions of General Municipal Law § 10, all deposits of Putnam County, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:

- A. By a pledge of eligible securities with an aggregate market value, as provided by General Municipal Law § 10, equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from the categories designated in Appendix A to the policy;
- B. By an eligible irrevocable letter of credit issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of Putnam County for a term not to exceed 90 days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements; or
- C. By an eligible surety bond payable to the government for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims-paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.
- D. A pledge of a pro rata portion of a pool of eligible securities, having in the aggregate a market value at least equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from all such officers within New York State at the bank or trust company.
- E. An “irrevocable letter of credit” issued in favor of Putnam County by a federal home loan bank whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in the highest rating category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization, as security for the payment of 100 percent of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed-upon interest, if any.

Section 5.

Section 41-7 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-7 Safekeeping and collateralization.

- A. Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits, made by the Finance Officer of Putnam County, shall be held by a third-party bank or trust company (for purposes of this policy, a trust company is deemed to be a third-party if it is a separately chartered corporation than a bank) subject to security and custodial agreements approved by the County Attorney.**
- B. The security agreement shall provide that the eligible securities are being pledged to secure Putnam County deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default.**
- C. The custodial agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide Putnam County a perfected security interest in the securities pledged as collateral and shall provide the following:**
 - (1) The securities held by the authorized bank or trust company as agent of and custodian for Putnam County will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the security for any other deposit or other liabilities.**
 - (2) The custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities held on behalf of Putnam County.**
 - (3) The frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and the substitution of collateral when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility must be provided.**
 - (4) The types of collateral used to secure County deposits must be in accordance with the most current legislation authorizing various types of collateral and approved by the County.**
 - (5) The County requires a margin of maintenance of 102% of the uninsured portion of deposits collateralized.**
 - (6) The County prefers written consent from the Commissioner of Finance (but will accept a telephone call and subsequent confirmation by the Commissioner of Finance) for the release and substitution of securities affecting the County's custodial account.**
 - (7) The County requires the banking depository to provide blank assignment forms of the pledged collateral to the custodial bank in the event that the depository bank defaults.**
 - (8) The County requires a monthly (quarterly if approved by the Commissioner of Finance) update on third party collateral security (end of month statement).**
 - (9) The County requires that there be no subcustodian.**

Section 6.

Section 41-8 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-8 Permitted investments.

A. As authorized by General Municipal Law § 11, Putnam County authorizes the Commissioner of Finance to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:

- (1) Special time deposit accounts in, or certificates of deposit issued by, a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in New York State;**
- (2) Through a deposit placement program, certificates of deposit in one or more "banking institutions," as defined in Banking Law Section 9-r;**
- (3) Obligations of the United States of America;**
- (4) Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America, where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;**
- (5) Obligations of the state: With the approval of the state comptroller, obligations issued pursuant to Local Finance Law Section 24.00 or 25.00 (i.e., Tax Anticipation Notes and Revenue Anticipation Notes) by any municipality, school district, or district corporation in New York State other than the County of Putnam;**
- (6) General obligation bonds and notes of any state other than New York State, provided that such bonds and notes receive the highest rating of at least one independent rating agency designated by the state comptroller;**
- (7) Obligations of any corporation organized under the laws of any state in the United States maturing within 270 days, provided that such obligations receive the highest rating of two independent rating services designated by the state comptroller, and that the issuer of such obligations has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding six months; provided, however, that the issuer of such obligations need not have received such rating during the prior six month period if such issuer has received the highest rating of two independent rating services designated by the state comptroller and is the successor or wholly-owned subsidiary of an issuer that has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding six month period, or if the issuer is the product of a merger of two or more issuers, one of which has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding six-month period; provided, however, that no more than \$250,000,000 may be invested in such obligations of any one corporation;**
- (8) Bankers' acceptances maturing within 270 days which are eligible for purchase in the open market by federal reserve banks and which have been accepted by a bank or trust company which is organized under the laws of the United States or of any state thereof, and which is a member of the federal reserve system and whose short-term obligations meet the criteria outlined in Subsection A(7) of this**

section; provided, however, that no more than \$250,000,000 may be invested in such bankers' acceptances of any one bank or trust company;

- (9) Obligations of, or instruments issued by, or fully guaranteed as to principle and interest by, any agency or instrumentality of the United States acting pursuant to a grant of authority from the Congress of the United States, including but not limited to, any federal home loan bank or banks, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the federal national mortgage association, the federal home loan mortgage corporation, and the United States postal service; provided, however, that no more than \$250,000,000 may be invested in such obligations of any one agency; or

- (10) No-load money market mutual funds registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and operated in accordance with Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, provided that such funds are limited to investments in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States of America, or in obligations of agencies or instrumentalities of the United States of America, where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America (including contracts for the sale and repurchase of any such obligations) and are rated in the highest rating category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization; provided, however, that no more than \$250,000,000 may be invested in such funds.

- B. All investment obligations shall be redeemable on respective maturity dates as determined by the Putnam County Commissioner of Finance in order to meet expenditure obligations for purposes for which the moneys were provided.

Section 7.

Section 41-10 of the Putnam County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 41-10 Purchase of investments.

- A. The Commissioner of Finance is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments.
- (1) By participation in a cooperative investment program with another authorized governmental entity pursuant to Article 5G of the General Municipal Law where such program meets all the requirements set forth in the Office of the State Comptroller's Opinion No. 88-46, and the specific program has been approved by the Putnam County Legislature.
- (2) By utilizing eligible cash management program(s), approved by the Putnam County Legislature in which can be invested a maximum amount of \$75,000,000 in each. program.
- B. All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of Putnam County, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed, in writing, to Putnam County by the bank or trust company. Any obligation held in the custody of a bank or trust company shall be held

pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law § 10.

- C. The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, Putnam County, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company, and will not in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide Putnam County a perfected interest in the securities.

Section 8.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6v - Re-Approval/Directing Cancellation & Prospective Cancellation Of Taxes On Certain Parcels/ Philipstown TM #72.-2-54; Putnam Valley TM #72.-1-53; & Putnam Valley TM #74.6-1-23 (Supersede Resolution #45 of 2026) was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #77

RE-APPROVAL/DIRECTING CANCELLATION & PROSPECTIVE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PARCELS/ PHILIPSTOWN TM # 72.-2-54; PUTNAM VALLEY TM # 72.-1-53; & PUTNAM VALLEY TM # 74.6-1-23 (Supersede Reso #45 of 2026)

WHEREAS, the County of Putnam enforces the collection of delinquent real estate taxes pursuant to NYS Real Property Tax Law, Article 1, Title 3, Foreclosure of Tax Lien by Proceeding In Rem; and

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law Section 1138, provides methods to withdraw parcels of property from foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, Philipstown TM # 72.-2-54, Putnam Valley TM # 72.-1-53, and Putnam Valley TM # 74.6-1-23 were all previously included in an in rem proceeding to foreclose tax liens under Putnam County Index # 500342/2024; and

WHEREAS, said parcels were subsequently withdrawn from said proceeding by respective certificates of withdrawal, dated October 23, 2024, on the basis that if the parcels were to be acquired there would be a significant risk that the County might be exposed to a liability substantially in excess of the amounts that could be recovered by enforcing the tax liens; and

WHEREAS, all three (3) parcels are underwater and consist of the lake beds of Indian Lake and/or Bryant Pond, and ownership status is tenuous; and

WHEREAS, there is no practical method to enforce the collection of tax liens arising against those parcels; and

WHEREAS, action can be taken by the Legislature pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 1138(6) to direct the Putnam County Commissioner of Finance, as Tax Enforcing Officer to issue certificates of cancellation and prospective cancellation of said tax liens; and

WHEREAS, the issuance of a certificate of cancellation and prospective cancellation renders a parcel involved exempt from taxation until it is determined by the Legislature that the parcel should be restored to the taxable portion of the tax roll; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Legislature hereby determines that there is no practical method to enforce the collection of tax liens arising hereafter against Philipstown TM # 72.-2-54, Putnam Valley TM # 72.-1-53, and Putnam Valley TM # 74.6-1-23 and that certificates of cancellation and prospective cancellation of said liens are to be issued; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the parcels shall remain exempt from taxation until the Putnam County Legislature determines that any of said parcels should be restored to the taxable portion of the tax roll and the Commissioner of Finance files a certificate of restoration; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution directing such cancellations and prospective cancellations be filed with the Putnam County Commissioner of Finance; and

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Commissioner of Finance is directed to issue applicable certificates of cancellation and prospective cancellation for Philipstown TM # 72.-2-54, Putnam Valley TM # 72.-1-53, and Putnam Valley TM # 74.6-1-23, and then file such certificates with the assessor of the assessing units in which the parcels are located and the Putnam County Director of Real Property Tax Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall supersede and replace Resolution # 45 of 2026 of the Putnam County Legislature; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6w - Approval – Correction of Taxes – Town of Kent Tax Map #33.14-1-7 was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #78

APPROVAL – CORRECTION OF TAXES –TOWN OF KENT TAX MAP #33.14-1-7

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property has requested a correction of taxes in the amount of \$6,912.53 for Marbarden Corp. in the Town of Kent, Tax Map #33.14-1-7; 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 Marbarden Corp. in the Town of Kent for Tax Map #33.14-1-7 in the amount of \$6,912.53.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6x- Approval – Correction of Taxes – Town of Kent Tax Map #33.18-1-5 was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #79

APPROVAL – CORRECTION OF TAXES –TOWN OF KENT TAX MAP #33.18-1-5

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property has requested a correction of taxes in the amount of \$7,397.03 for JJC Realty Corp. in the Town of Kent, Tax Map #33.18-1-5; 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 JJC Realty Corp. in the Town of Kent for Tax Map #33.18-1-5 in the amount of \$7,397.03.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6y - Approval – Correction of Taxes – Town of Carmel Tax Map #87.6-2-41 was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #80

APPROVAL – CORRECTION OF TAXES –TOWN OF CARMEL TAX MAP #87.6-2-41

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property has requested a correction of taxes in the amount of \$1,331.43 for Elisabeth Joshi in the Town of Carmel, Tax Map #87.6-2-41; 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 Elisabeth Joshi in the Town of Carmel for Tax Map #87.6-2-41.1 in the amount of \$1,331.43

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6z - Approval – Support For Home Rule Legislation Authorizing The County of Putnam To Alienate Certain Lands Used As Parklands was next. On behalf of

Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #81

APPROVAL/SUPPORT FOR HOME RULE LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM TO ALIENATE CERTAIN LANDS USED AS PARKLANDS

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, said cellular tower would accommodate telecommunications coverage needs for various County Emergency Service Departments, and provide the capacity for the collocation of private public utility wireless communications facilities in order to close significant gaps in reliable wireless service and avoid the proliferation of towers; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. A08903 and Senate Bill No. S08852, sponsored by Assemblyman Slater and Senator Harckham support Putnam County's alienation of this land, but require local enactment; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature finds that the enactment of such legislation is in the best interest of the residents of the County of Putnam; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 40 of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York the County of Putnam adopts and enacts such legislation authorizing the passage of these special laws; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County of Putnam hereby requests and approves a Home Rule Message to the Legislature of the State of New York in support of Assembly Bill No. A08903 and Senate Bill No. S08852; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Putnam County Legislature is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to our State representatives in the State Legislature as well as the Governor and leadership of our State Legislature.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6aa: Approval Of A Local Law Amending Article V Of Chapter 220 Of The Code Of Putnam County To (1) Clarify Application Of Real Property Tax Law §467 And (2) Increase The Maximum Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption was next. On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

RESOLUTION #82

APPROVAL OF A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 220 OF THE CODE OF PUTNAM COUNTY TO (1) CLARIFY APPLICATION OF REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW § 467 AND (2) INCREASE THE MAXIMUM SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature adopted Local Law #15 of 2022 (Resolution #239 of 2022), increasing the income thresholds for the Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemption pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature wishes to hereby amend Local Law #15 of 2022 (Resolution #239 of 2022), and further amend Local Law #4 of 2026 (Resolution #38 of 2026) and supersede both with the instant local law;

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law § 467 authorizes local governments to provide a partial exemption from real property taxation for qualifying senior citizens and permits local adoption of graduated exemption schedules; and

WHEREAS, amendments to Real Property Tax Law § 467 authorize local governments to provide exemptions in excess of fifty percent (50%) of assessed valuation, up to sixty-five percent (65%), subject to locally adopted schedules; and

WHEREAS, it was and remains the intent of this Legislature that, except as expressly modified by County law with respect to income thresholds and exemption percentage schedules, all other definitions, conditions, qualifications, options, and administrative requirements adopted pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467 by the Town in which the property is located shall apply to the County exemption; and

WHEREAS, clarification of legislative intent and alignment with current State law is necessary to ensure uniform administration and avoid unintended fiscal impact;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Putnam as follows:

Section 1. Amendment to § 220-29

Section 220-29 of the Code of Putnam County is hereby amended to read as follows:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law § 467, the real property owned by one or more persons, each of whom is 65 years of age or over, or real property owned by a husband and wife, one of whom is 65 years of age or over, shall be exempt from taxation up to a maximum of sixty-five percent (65%) of the assessed valuation thereof, as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. Amendment to § 220-30(A) (Application of RPTL § 467)

Section 220-30(A) is hereby amended to add the following paragraph: Except as expressly modified herein with respect to income eligibility thresholds and percentage schedules adopted by the County, all other definitions, conditions, qualifications, options, exclusions, and administrative requirements applicable to the Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemption pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467, including any local options adopted by the Town in which the property is located, shall apply to the County exemption. The County's adoption of income thresholds and exemption percentages shall not be construed to supersede or replace any other requirements adopted pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467 unless expressly stated herein.

Section 3. Amendment to § 220-30(B) (Schedule of Exemptions)

Section 220-30(B) is hereby amended to authorize exemption percentages up to a maximum of sixty-five percent (65%), as indicated in the schedule below, and consistent with Real Property Tax Law § 467. The Legislature may, by resolution, adopt updated

exemption percentage schedules consistent with state law and income thresholds established herein.

Less than \$ 47,000.00 = 65 %						Represents new income limits in original RP-467 Senior scale
	\$ 47,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 48,000.00	=	60 %	Represents new income limits in original RP-467 Senior scale
	\$ 48,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 49,000.00	=	55 %	Represents new income limits in original RP-467 Senior scale
	\$ 49,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 50,000.00	=	50 %	Represents new income limits in original RP-467 Senior scale
ORIG	\$ 50,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 51,000.00	=	45 %	
	\$ 51,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 52,000.00	=	40 %	
	\$ 52,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 53,000.00	=	35 %	
	\$ 53,000.00	or more, but less than	\$ 53,900.00	=	30 %	
	\$ 53,900.00	or more, but less than	\$ 54,800.00	=	25 %	
	\$ 54,800.00	or more, but less than	\$ 55,700.00	=	20 %	
	\$ 55,700.00	or more, but less than	\$ 56,600.00	=	15 %	
	\$ 56,600.00	or more, but less than	\$ 57,500.00	=	10 %	
	\$ 57,500.00	or more, but less than	\$ 58,400.00	=	5 %	

Section 4. Legislative Intent

This Local Law is intended:

1. To clarify and confirm the original legislative intent of Local Law #15 of 2022;
2. To ensure that County exemption administration operates within the full framework of Real Property Tax Law § 467 and any applicable Town-level options; and
3. To align the County's maximum exemption authority with current State law permitting exemptions up to sixty-five percent (65%).

Section 5. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof.

Section 6. Effective Date

This Local Law shall be filed with the Secretary of State of the State of New York and shall take effect as of March 1, 2026.

BY POLL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6bb: Approval/Opposition To Electric Bus Mandate was next On behalf of Chairwoman Crowley and member of the Audit & Administration Committee, Legislator Regan, Legislator Russo moved the following:

Chairman Birmingham disclosed that his law firm represented school districts in matters involving bus financing, so he recused himself from discussion and voting. He left the chambers and turned the meeting over to Deputy Chairman Gouldman.

Legislator Montgomery moved to consider her related pre-filed resolution, Item #7a, together with Item #6bb; seconded by Legislator Regan. By roll call vote, four Ayes and three Nays: Legislators D'Angelo, Gouldman and Russo.

Legislator Crowley was absent and Chairman Birmingham was recused. Motion failed.

Legislator Regan opposed the State mandate but questioned whether a County resolution would influence State decision-makers and noted that school districts are independent taxing entities.

Legislator D'Angelo stated that the County should support local school districts in opposing an unfunded mandate. He explained why he does not support the proposed resolution #7a, expressing his opinion that he believes it undermines the intent of this resolution.

Legislator Addonizio stated that the mandate did not reflect Putnam County's climate, infrastructure or financial realities and supported local control.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that the mandate would impose substantial vehicle, charging, scheduling and electric-grid costs on school districts and cited concerns expressed by local superintendents.

Legislator Russo stated that the 2027 deadline was unrealistic and that County taxpayers would bear the cost.

Legislator Montgomery acknowledged implementation challenges but favored working with State partners on funding, infrastructure, regional coordination and a feasible transition rather than opposing the policy outright.

Deputy Chairman Gouldman stated that the mandate would worsen the affordability crisis, that Putnam County lacked sufficient charging infrastructure and heated storage, and that local districts and municipalities had expressed opposition. He stated that clean energy goals should be pursued on a realistic schedule with adequate funding.

RESOLUTION #83

APPROVAL/OPPOSITION TO ELECTRIC BUS MANDATE

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature is aware of the NYS zero-emission bus mandate requiring school districts to begin purchasing zero-emission buses by 2027, and to fully transition away from traditional buses by 2035; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County does not have the requisite infrastructure as far as charging stations to support this mandate; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County's cold and intemperate winters are not conducive to the longevity of the batteries of electric vehicles which will be parked in a municipal lot and exposed to the elements; and

WHEREAS, NYS' legislation is a mandate which impacts school buses used for children; and

WHEREAS, if the battery were to fail on a school bus during school transportation hours Putnam County children could be left stranded; and

WHEREAS, NYS has passed this mandate without supplying the necessary funding to create the infrastructure necessary to safely implement this protocol including Countywide charging stations, heated bus garages with charging stations, and battery surplus storage in the event of battery failure; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature shall submit official correspondence on behalf of its constituents opposing this NYS legislation as drafted, and making recommendations for the modifications necessary to address these serious concerns; and be it further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately, and the letter shall be sent within fourteen (14) days of passage or as soon thereafter as practicable, under the signature of all Legislators who voted in favor of this resolution.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: FIVE AYES. TWO NAYS - LEGISLATORS MONTGOMERY& REGAN. ONE RECUSAL – LEGISLATOR BIRMINGHAM. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

(Chairman Birmingham, Legislators Montgomery, Gouldman, Addonizio, Russo, D'Angelo, Regan, Sayegh & Crowley)

Item #6cc: Approval/Motor Fuel Sales Tax Adjustment was next. On behalf of the members of the Budget & Finance Committee, Chairman Birmingham moved the following:

Chairman Birmingham stated that Legislator Gouldman has brought this proposal forward.

Legislator Gouldman stated that capping the County sales tax calculation at \$3.00 per gallon would prevent County government from benefiting from rising fuel prices and would ease the burden on residents.

Legislators Sayegh, Addonizio, D'Angelo and Russo supported the adjustment as immediate taxpayer relief.

Legislator Montgomery moved to make the adjustment permanent. The motion was not seconded.

Chairman Birmingham moved to amend the expiration date from December 31, 2027 to December 31, 2028; seconded by Legislator Montgomery.

Legislators Regan, Sayegh, D'Angelo, Russo and Gouldman expressed concern about extending the adjustment without additional financial analysis and about limiting the flexibility of future Legislatures.

Legislator Montgomery cited the County's unassigned fund balance, sub-contingency funds and 2025 gasoline sales as support for the longer period.

Chairman Birmingham stated that the cap would protect taxpayers during unusually high fuel prices and that the County had sufficient financial cushion.

By roll call vote, three Ayes. Five Nays: Legislators Addonizio, D'Angelo, Gouldman, Regan and Russo. Legislator Crowley was absent. Motion to amend failed.

RESOLUTION #84

APPROVAL/ MOTOR FUEL SALES TAX ADJUSTMENT

Resolution of the Legislature of the County of Putnam, electing a cents per gallon rate of sales and compensating use taxes on motor fuel and diesel motor fuel, in lieu of the percentage rate of such taxes, pursuant to the authority of Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York.

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

SECTION 1. Resolution No. 85 of 1977 is amended by revising section 4-B to read as follows:

Section 4-B. Cents per gallon rate of sales and compensating use taxes on motor fuel and diesel motor fuel.

Notwithstanding any provision of this enactment to the contrary, in lieu of the percentage rate of sales and compensating use taxes imposed on receipts from the retail sale of and consideration given or contracted to be given for, or for the use of, motor fuel and diesel motor fuel, such taxes shall be imposed at a rate of cents per gallon of such motor fuel or diesel motor fuel, in the manner prescribed by subdivision (m) of section 1111 of the New York Tax Law, provided that, for purposes of calculating the cents per gallon rate of tax, such receipts or consideration shall be limited to three dollars per gallon of either such fuel. Provided that, if the average price of such fuels changes as described in such subdivision (m) of section 1111 of the Tax Law, the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance shall adjust the cents per gallon tax rate on such fuels in the manner prescribed in such subdivision (m) of section 1111 of the Tax Law.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take effect June 1, 2026, and shall expire and be deemed repealed on December 31, 2027.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABSENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #6dd: Approval/Special Audit Relating To Soil And Water Conservation District Funds was next. On behalf of the members of the Budget & Finance Committee, Chairman Birmingham moved the following:

Chairman Birmingham explained that the resolution would authorize selection of an independent auditor through a competitive process to review Soil and Water Conservation District funds and records from January 1, 2018 forward. He stated that the audit would establish a reliable starting point as the District began operating independently and would clarify the receipt, segregation and use of funds and ownership of assets.

Legislator Sayegh supported an audit but questioned whether the requested line-by-line scope was practical and whether records from 2018 remained available.

Legislative Counsel Heather Abissi explained that the District needed historical information to determine ownership of assets, satisfy reporting requirements and reconcile its accounts. She stated that 2018 was a transition point in the handling of District funds.

Legislators Montgomery and Addonizio supported an independent audit to ensure transparency, public confidence and freedom from conflicts of interest. Legislators Gouldman and Russo supported an audit but favored first using the County Auditor as the more cost-effective option.

Legislator Regan stated that changing course to an internal audit without consulting the County Auditor or determining staffing capacity would contribute to existing delays.

Chairwoman Sayegh stated that the County Auditor would provide information to the independent auditor and that independence was warranted for approximately \$800,000 in public funds.

Chairwoman Sayegh moved to amend each reference to January 1, 2018 to January 1, 2019; seconded by Legislator D'Angelo. After further discussion regarding the significance of 2018 as a transition year and the availability of retained records, Chairwoman Sayegh withdrew the amendment and Legislator D'Angelo withdrew his second.

RESOLUTION #85

APPROVAL/ SPECIAL AUDIT RELATING TO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FUNDS

WHEREAS, The Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District (the "District") is a public corporation and political subdivision of New York State established under

Article 3 of the New York State Soil & Water Conservation District Law, independent of but working in cooperation with Putnam County (the "County"); and

WHEREAS, the County and the District entered into an Intermunicipal Agreement clarifying the District's independence; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature recognizes the importance of clarity and transparency, and the District's ability to begin their independent role without the County as its fiduciary, with possession of all historical documentation necessary for it to reconcile its accounts in the future; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 2, Section 2.04(i) of the Putnam County Charter, the County Legislature has the power to *"make or cause to be made such studies, audits and investigations as it deems to be in the best interest of the County, and in connection therewith to obtain professional and technical advice, ... and require the production of bonds, papers and other evidence deemed necessary"*; and

WHEREAS, the District has raised concerns that it does not have sufficient financial, management, operational and other records or information to reconcile its accounts upon receipt of its funds; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature directs the Commissioner of Finance to provide, within a time period not to exceed 10 calendar days from the effective date of this resolution, and to supply the District (with a copy to the Clerk of the County Legislature) all bank account statements for all District funds, all District transfer records, and all District reconciliations originating from January 1, 2018 to present within the County's possession, or otherwise obtainable from any banking institution or others' possession, whether current records or preserved in the County's archive files; and be it further

RESOLVED, that if such production cannot be accomplished within said 10 days, the Commissioner of Finance shall so indicate in a letter to the County Legislature outlining such reason(s), and provide an estimate as to when such production will occur; and be it further

RESOLVED, that if such period shall exceed another 10 days, the Commissioner of Finance shall notify the Clerk of the County Legislature, and the Commissioner of Finance shall appear before a meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee of the County Legislature to provide such reason(s); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the County Legislature shall supply the District and to the Special Auditor with all County Legislative resolutions adopted on and after January 1, 2018 pertaining to the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Soil and Water Department of the County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature directs the County Auditor, in cooperation with the Department of General Services, to issue an RFP (or such other competitive process as required by law) (the "Selection Process") to identify and hire by the County Legislature, an independent accounting firm (the "Special Auditor") to conduct a special audit on behalf of the County Legislature of the budgets, books, records, financial statements, legislative resolutions, District board resolutions and any other records or documents of the County created from January 1, 2018 to present; and be it further

RESOLVED, that such special audit shall determine, on a line by line basis, all soil and water funds received and disbursed, and to reconcile those against the resolutions authorizing such disbursements, and prepare a report as to the findings thereto, so that it can be determined that whether soil and water district funds were accounted for and were properly used for District purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the parameters of such special audit shall include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

A. all funds received by the County from the State of New York (or any agency or department thereof) relating to soil and water conservation district Part A, Part B and Part C funds and any other District funds received by the County,

B. all funds received by the County from the United States government (or any agency or department thereof) relating to the District received by the County,

C. an identification of all County budget accounts into which the funds described in paragraphs A and B hereof were deposited and any interest earned thereon,

D. an inventory of all equipment furnishings, vehicles and other tangible and intangible assets purchased with funds described in paragraphs A and B hereof,

E. a list of all invoices and disbursements relating to funds described in paragraphs A and B hereof setting forth the amounts disbursed, the purposes for which such disbursements were made and the payees of such disbursements,

F. provide a listing of payroll records relating to positions paid for in whole or in part by funds described in paragraphs A and B hereof,

G. a list of all District resolutions and County Legislative resolutions relating to District funds, and

H. identify whether any soil and water conservation district funds received by the County were required to be segregated into any special or trust accounts and provide information as to whether such segregation(s) were properly and timely made, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Special Auditor shall be authorized to consult and cooperate with members of the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Attorney's Office is hereby authorized to take whatever legal action is necessary to assist in the Selection Process necessary to effectuate the directives of this Resolution, and the Special Audit; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in connection with the Selection Process and pursuant to Article 2, Section 2.04(i) of the Putnam County Charter, the County Legislature shall be and is hereby empowered to select the Special Auditor; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect in accordance with Section 3.04(A) of the County Charter.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: EIGHT AYES. LEGISLATOR CROWLEY WAS ABESENT. MOTION CARRIES.

Item #7 – Other Business

Item #7a: Approval/Calling On New York State To Provide Funding, Infrastructure Support, And Flexibility For The Implementation Of Zero-Emission School Buses was next.

Legislator Montgomery sought to introduce the pre-filed resolution as Other Business.

Chairman Birmingham recused himself for the reasons previously stated and left the chambers.

Deputy Chairman Gouldman advised that six affirmative votes were required to accept the item.

Legislator Montgomery made a motion to waive the rules and accept Item #7a as Other Business. The motion was not seconded and failed.

**APPROVAL / CALLING ON NEW YORK STATE TO PROVIDE FUNDING,
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT, AND FLEXIBILITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ZERO-
EMISSION SCHOOL BUSES**

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature recognizes New York State's mandate requiring school districts to begin purchasing zero-emission buses by 2027 and to fully transition by 2035; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature acknowledges that school districts face legitimate concerns regarding the cost of vehicles, charging infrastructure, operational readiness, and long-term maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County currently lacks sufficient charging infrastructure and faces additional challenges related to utility capacity, rural geography, and cold-weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, cold weather and range considerations, while manageable with current technology, require proper planning, investment, and operational support to ensure reliability and student safety; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that all vehicle fleets - diesel and electric - require contingency planning to address potential breakdowns and ensure student safety during transportation; and

WHEREAS, significant state and federal funding opportunities have been made available in recent years, including but not limited to the Municipal Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Rebate Program, the EPA Clean School Bus Program, NYSERDA incentives, and federal infrastructure investments; and

WHEREAS, counties and school districts across New York State have begun accessing these resources, while others - including Putnam County - are still working to build the capacity to do so effectively; and

WHEREAS, Putnam County has recently established Climate Smart and resiliency planning capacity, positioning the County to better evaluate needs, pursue funding opportunities, and develop long-term strategies; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) has called on New York State to increase funding, support regional coordination, and ensure equitable access to zero-emission vehicle programs, particularly for rural counties with greater infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, New York State policymakers are actively exploring additional solutions, including state-supported vehicle purchasing, revolving loan funds, regional procurement strategies, and incentives for utilities to accelerate infrastructure upgrades; and

WHEREAS, delays in utility interconnection and grid capacity upgrades remain a significant barrier to implementation, particularly in areas served by utilities such as NYSEG and Central Hudson; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature does not oppose the goals of transitioning to cleaner transportation, but calls upon New York State to provide the necessary tools to ensure that such a transition is financially responsible, operationally feasible, and equitable; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Legislature respectfully urges New York State to:

- 1. Increase direct funding for school districts to cover the full cost of zero-emission buses and associated infrastructure;**

2. Expand and enhance the Municipal ZEV Rebate Program to support large-scale and rural implementation;
3. Establish state-supported purchasing programs or bulk procurement options to reduce costs for school districts;
4. Create or expand revolving loan funds and grant programs for infrastructure development, including charging stations and facility upgrades;
5. Support regional coordination among counties and school districts to achieve cost efficiencies and shared infrastructure solutions;
6. Require and incentivize utilities to accelerate grid capacity upgrades and interconnection timelines necessary for fleet electrification;
7. Ensure equitable access to funding and technical assistance, particularly for rural counties with limited existing infrastructure; and
8. Provide clear implementation guidance and flexibility to allow local governments and school districts to transition responsibly based on readiness and capacity; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Legislature commits to continuing its evaluation of fleet transition strategies, including infrastructure, funding opportunities, and operational considerations, through its ongoing Climate Resiliency and planning efforts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of New York, members of the New York State Legislature, NYSERDA, NYPA, and all other relevant state agencies.

Item #8 - RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

Joseph Montuori of the Town of Carmel, Executive Director of Sustainable Putnam and a member of the Putnam County Climate Smart Task Force, addressed Item #6bb. He agreed that the State mandate required modification or additional funding, but stated that the transition was intended to address climate change and public-health effects of diesel emissions. He described available financing and leasing approaches, lower fuel and maintenance costs, winter-range considerations and the need for State support, regional research and shared infrastructure planning.

Item #9 - RECOGNITION OF LEGISLATORS

Legislator Montgomery thanked Mr. Montuori for his work and stated that education and continued planning concerning electric vehicles remained important.

Legislator Russo reminded the public of the Autism Acceptance Walk at Tilly Foster Farm on April 26, 2026 at 11:00 A.M. and encouraged residents to enroll as organ donors.

Item #10 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 10:05p.m. Legislator Sayegh made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator D'Angelo. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Clerk, Diane Trabulsy.