

**SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
CALLED BY THE CLERK AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN
HELD IN ROOM HISTORIC COURTHOUSE
40 GLENEIDA AVENUE
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Tuesday

September 22, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 8:11 P.M. by Chairman Birmingham who requested that Legislator D'Angelo lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Birmingham recognized Legislator Regan to lead in the Legislative prayer. Upon roll call, Legislators Gouldman, Russo, D'Angelo, Regan, Sayegh, Crowley and Chairman Birmingham were present. Legislator Addonizio was absent. Also present First Deputy County Attorney Cherico for Legislative Counsel Abissi.

Item #4 - Approval – Resolution In Connection With The County Policy On Retiree Health Insurance Benefits was next. (Pers Item #4). Chairman Birmingham recognized Toni Addonizio Chair of the Personnel Committee. On behalf of the Members of the Personnel Committee Legislators Russo and Sayegh, Legislator Addonizio introduced the following.

Chairman Birmingham stated that this item has been addressed several times through the Committee process. He recognized members of the Finance Department and Personnel Department for all of their assistance on bringing this matter to the proposal that is in front the Legislature for consideration. He also took a moment to thank the Retirees who brought this matter to the Legislature.

Legislators Regan, Addonizio, Montgomery, D'Angelo and Russo echoed the comments made by Chairman Birmingham.

Legislator Sayegh stated on September 21st a recommendation had been received from the Personnel Department and Finance Department. She spoke to some of her concerns in her consideration of this matter.

Legislator Crowley made a motion to Accept the Additional (memo from Acting Personnel Director Iasoni to Chair of Personnel dated September 21, 2026); Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Legislator Crowley explained that she believed the members of the public who were present be permitted to speak on the additional.

Chairman Birmingham facilitated further discussion on the matter.

Legislator Regan made a motion to call the question; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

RESOLUTION #244

APPROVAL / RESOLUTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE COUNTY POLICY ON RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Legislature has previously considered the issues surrounding the costs of health insurance and has considered a comprehensive health insurance contribution structure; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature has previously adopted several resolutions which set forth the amount of retiree health insurance benefit eligible for which County retirees may be eligible including Resolution #227 of 2015, Resolution #93 of 2017 and Resolution #304 of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature recognizes that the high cost of health insurance offered to retirees has added a significant burden to the operating budget of the County in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature also recognizes that a targeted retirement incentive program which is designed to encourage long-term and highly-compensated employees to retire earlier than otherwise planned would, in exchange for a modified schedule of retiree health insurance benefits, reduce County labor costs and realign workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature also recognizes that making this resolution applicable to both those retirees who have retired prior to as well as after the effective date of this resolution would relieve the otherwise administrative burden of creating two classes of retirees,

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF PUTNAM, NEW YORK, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. All current and future Retirees eligible for a post-employment health insurance benefit pursuant to Resolution #227 of 2015 shall be provided a post-retirement health insurance benefit in accordance with the following contribution schedule, which amount shall be calculated at the full year amount at time of retirement and shall not be increased due to an increase in a retiree's pension amount as a result of a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) thereafter:

Annual amount of pension benefit	Amount of premium payable by retiree
\$85,000 & higher	20%
\$30,000-\$84,999	17%
\$10,000-\$29,999	10%
\$0-\$9,999	8%

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect January 1, 2027, and upon approval of addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Putnam County CSEA.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE: NINE AYES. MOTION CARRIES.

Chairman Birmingham permitted public comment from Putnam County retirees John Mulraney and Jane Meunier and resident Brett Yarris. All of whom stated their appreciation for the Legislature's time and attention to this matter.

Item #5 Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:59P.M. Chairman Birmingham made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Trabulsy, Clerk.