

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM #318
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairman Gross & Legislators LoBue & Oliverio

**Wednesday August 14, 2013
(Immediately Following the Rules Committee Meeting @ 5:30p.m.)**

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m. by Chairman Gross who requested Legislator Oliverio lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Gross and Legislator Oliverio were present. Legislator LoBue was absent.

Item #3) Approval/Protective Services Committee Meeting Minutes: June 10 & May 8, 2013

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item #4) Approval/Fund Transfer (13T165)/Sheriff Department/Purchase Vehicle for Corrections Division

Chairman Gross made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 13T165; Seconded by Legislator Oliverio. All in favor.

Item #5) Update/Special Patrol Officers (SPO)

Undersheriff Peter Convery stated that this is going very well and there is great cooperation with the County. He stated that the patrol division is run by Captain Thomas Velotti and training is still taking place, but will end Friday, August 16, 2013.

Captain Velotti stated that the Special Patrol Officers' first day of employment was July 29, 2013. He stated that they went through School Resource Officer (SRO) training in Dutchess, even though they are Special Patrol Officers (SPOs). He stated that this was done because he would rather have officers who are over trained than undertrained. He stated that now, in the third week of training, they are training with firearms. He further stated that all officers went through the entire training, even though they are retired police officers and have received some of the same training in their careers. He stated that this was to ensure they were all on the same page.

Legislator Oliverio asked what the turnaround would be if other school districts were to want this program.

Captain Velotti stated it would be three weeks because that is how long the training takes. He stated that they have a list of candidates they can look at from those who applied to Mahopac.

Chairman Gross asked if five officers were enough.

Undersheriff Convery stated he felt this was enough. He stated that Mahopac had originally asked for four, so they went with five to have an extra officer.

Chairman Gross stated he commends the Sheriff's Department for getting this done in time for school.

Undersheriff Convery stated the cooperation and connection between the schools and the County Legislature and County Executive is key.

Legislator Oliverio asked what the cost was per SPO.

Captain Velotti stated the salary is around \$21-\$22 per hour. He stated that for the full year, it would be around \$40,000.

Legislator Oliverio asked if the SROs are being kept.

Captain Velotti stated there will be an SRO in the Mahopac's middle school as well as the Mahopac's high school.

Chairman Gross stated he commends the Sheriff's Department, the Legislature, and the County Executive.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she also commends the Sheriff's Department and the Protective Services Committee. She stated that she believes other schools will follow suit with this program. She questioned the title the officers will hold and what the students can call them.

Captain Velotti stated their title is Special Patrol Officer so the students can call them "Officer."

There being no further business, at 6:00 p.m., Chairman Gross made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Oliverio. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Green, Administrative Assistant.