

**PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE
TENTATIVE BUDGET
AS PRESENTED BY THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
TO BE HELD BY THE
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE
HELD IN THE
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Wednesday

October 3, 2012

8:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Chairwoman Conklin who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Oliverio, Othmer, Albano, Gross, Birmingham, LoBue, DiCarlo and Chairwoman Conklin were present. Legislator Tamagna was absent. Also present was Legislative Counsel Van Ross.

Chairwoman Conklin requested that the Clerk read the Public Notice (attached).

Chairwoman Conklin stated that anyone who wished to speak should come up to the microphone and state their name and the town in which they reside.

Assemblyman Steve Katz stated that he was impressed and felt that it was a really well thought out budget. He felt that the County could be proud of the work that has been done by the County Executive and her team.

Sheriff Donald B. Smith stated that during last year's 2012 budget process he was concerned with respect to a proposal which would have affected the attorneys in the Department of Social Services. He asked that the Legislators have their antennas up while reviewing the 2013 budget. He wanted to make sure that the 2013 budget process and every budget process going forward, is done in accordance with the law, is above board and with integrity and that it is doing the right thing for the residents of Putnam County. He is deeply concerned about things that are going on in Putnam County and would be available to speak to any of the Legislators if they would like him to speak further on this matter.

Ms. Jean Ehnebuske, Town of Kent resident, thanked County Executive Odell for her support of the Putnam County Libraries. She explained how County funding for libraries delivers a terrific return on investment. She also detailed the many resources utilized in the libraries by Putnam County residents who find the services offered essential, especially during these difficult economic times.

Ms. Patti Haar, Director of the Patterson Library, stated that the libraries appreciated the 3% increase in funding which totaled \$18,000 dollars. She gave further details of how this significant increase in funding benefitted the residents of Putnam County. She also explained how the NYS Digital Literacy Grant program helps to train the library staff on how to work more with people one on one with computer training. She stated that the

County's increased funding goes a long way in helping people learn computer skills with more personal training.

Legislator Birmingham stated that this Public Hearing was originally scheduled to convene at 8:00 p.m. However, it is now 7:54 p.m., therefore he suggested that the Legislature stay until at least 8:00 p.m. in case anyone from the public arrives to speak at this Public Hearing.

County Executive Odell suggested that the video be played from the sesquicentennial parade from 1962 while we are waiting.

There being no further business, at 8:08 p.m. Legislator Birmingham made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Schonfeld, Clerk.