

Chairwoman Addonizio stated Acting Director Smith was unable to attend the meeting and that nobody is in attendance to represent Tourism. She questioned the Legislature if she could meet with Acting Director Smith the following week and request Acting Director Smith to send the previously requested financial documentation to the Legislature. She proposed that the Committee would move forward with the Matching Funds, but hold the \$10,000 for Leased Transportation (54678) and \$141,996 for the County Contribution (54950) in sub-contingency until those documents are received.

Legislator LoBue stated she is in agreement since she has been asking for this documentation since March. She stated that County funds pay for Tourism's accounting firm so it should be easy to get the documentation. She stated this is unprecedented to have to wait so long for requested information. She stated the Visitors Bureau is up and running with taxpayer money being spent.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that is why she would like the money to be held in sub-contingency.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she believed that Acting Director Smith provided the information during the last Economic Development Committee meeting.

Legislator LoBue stated he did not.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated itemized documentation was requested, which was not provided to the Legislature.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated Acting Director Smith does not have access to some of the information that was requested. She stated she does not believe the funds should be held.

Legislator Nacerino questioned exactly what funds were being held in sub-contingency.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated the Leased Transportation (54678) and County Contribution (54950).

Legislator Scuccimarra suggested waiting until after Chairwoman Addonizio meets with Acting Director Smith to decide on holding funds.

Legislator LoBue stated the money could be taken out of sub-contingency before the budget process is complete.

Legislator Gouldman questioned why \$6,100 has not been spent from the 2016 budget for Leased Transportation (54678).

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that cannot be answered due to there being no representative present. She stated it would be fair to wait until the questions can be answered.

Legislator Nacerino noted that the questioned money may be spent before the end of the year.

Legislator Gouldman stated that \$5,000 has not been spent in Advertising (54664).

County Auditor Sharkey stated that the funds are usually spent at the end of the year.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if that would be the bills for 2016 or 2017.

County Auditor Sharkey stated it would be the generated bills for 2016.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if it is customary to have the bills submitted at the end of the year.

County Auditor Sharkey stated yes.

Legislative Counsel Clement Van Ross stated whatever is done tonight is temporary and can be revised at the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting. He stated the budget can be updated with new information that is obtained.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned if the budget could be changed if the information was provided before the Budget and Finance Meeting.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated it has to be at a committee meeting so the information can be explained.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned when the Budget and Finance Meeting is.

County Auditor Sharkey stated October 20, 2016.

Legislator Gross made a motion to move \$10,000 from Leased Transportation (Line 54678) to sub-contingency. Seconded by Chairwoman Addonizio; All in favor.

Legislator Gross made a motion to move \$141,996 from County Contribution (Line 54950) to sub-contingency. Seconded by Chairwoman Addonizio; All in favor.

Putnam County Economic Development Corporation (Page 164/Account #6420)

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that the Putnam County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is asking for \$75,845 less than the 2015 Budget.

Joseph Roberto, Chairman of the EDC Board, stated the EDC is asking for the same amount as 2016. He stated the budget was cut from 2015 to 2016.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the 2016 budget was sufficient for operations.

President of the EDC Jill Varricchio stated that they are functioning and hope to add fundraising and membership.

Chairman Roberto stated the EDC is functioning at a deficit. He stated that they have cash reserves that they will be using, in addition to fundraising.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if it is enough money.

Chairman Roberto stated through the cash reserves, which they are using instead of asking for more budgeted money, and fundraising efforts, the deficit should shrink.

President Varricchio stated they will let the Legislature know over the course of the year if the budgeted amount is not enough.

Chairman Roberto stated it is a gesture on the part of the EDC to not ask for additional funds.

Putnam County Industrial Development Corporation (Page 166/Account #6460)

Legislator Gouldman questioned why there is no requested budget for 2017.

Commissioner of Finance William Carlin stated the money is in sub-contingency, as it was last year. He stated the Industrial Development Corporation (IDA) is working to get back into compliance. He stated the board will have to decide how to move forward. He stated the prospect of a standalone IDA in Putnam County without projects available will not work. He stated the money is in sub-contingency until the Board decides the IDA's future.

Legislator LoBue questioned how the IDA is currently operating.

Commissioner Carlin stated the Board approved \$32,000 which is being used for a consultant and an auditor to assist in getting back into compliance.

Legislator LoBue stated she believed the consultant was \$10,000.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is. He stated the \$32,000 includes the auditor and other costs that may come up. He stated the current Board ends on December 31, 2016. He stated he hopes the IDA will be in compliance by the end of the year and the Board will have to decide what to do with the IDA.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the auditor and consultant have already been hired.

Commissioner Carlin stated they have, but they have not started working. He stated he expects them to start in late October or early November.

Legislator Albano questioned why the money is in sub-contingency.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is because the future of the IDA is uncertain. He stated the model of a standalone IDA for a small county like Putnam County will not work due to a lack of projects that support it. He stated that it will ultimately be up to the Legislature to decide what to do with the IDA.

Legislator Albano questioned if some form of an IDA has to exist to handle the projects that already exist and make sure they are in compliance.

Legislator LoBue stated it is required by state law.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct.

Chairman of the IDA Bill Nulk stated the IDA is not giving up on getting more projects but they have to be compliant by the end of the year.

Commissioner Carlin stated that money is left in sub-contingency so when the future of the IDA is decided, the funds are available.

Dues (Page 42/Account #1920) - Continued

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that Legislator Gouldman had previously asked for a breakdown of why the budget increased.

Commissioner Carlin stated the dues for NYSAC went up.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if the dues are paid quarterly.

Commissioner Carlin stated they are paid annually. He stated the NYSAC dues are worth it because of how they help the counties.

Legislator Gouldman questioned why there is still \$441 left in this year's budget.

Commissioner Carlin stated the NYSAC dues were paid in full so it may just be a small surplus left over.

Tourism Promotion Agency (Page 163/Account #6410) - Continued

Legislator Gouldman stated \$5,000 has not been spent in the Advertising (54664) budget for the year. He questioned if the bill comes at the end of the year.

Commissioner Carlin stated it was originally put in to encourage local advertising, including the three (3) County newspapers. He stated it is paid at the end of the year.

Legislator Gouldman questioned \$6,158.86 that is not spent from the Leased Transportation (54678) budget.

Commissioner Carlin stated that money is used for shuttling people to and from train stations for different events.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if it is expected to be spent this year.

Commissioner Carlin stated he is unsure and that question is better suited for Acting Director of Tourism Frank Smith.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if anything additional is expected to justify the budget.

Commissioner Carlin stated he is unsure but he does know that Tourism is planning a lot of events. He stated they plan to shuttle to and from the train stations because they are looking to draw people from outside the County.

Chairman Nulk noted that Tourism gets a lot of support from Metro North.

Legislator Nacerino stated the shuttles are necessary to draw people to Putnam County.

Legislator Gouldman questioned what the County Contribution (54950) is.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is the allocation from the County to run the Visitors Bureau. He stated he believes it is paid in monthly installments.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if the \$35,499 will be spent before the end of the year.

Commissioner Carlin stated yes it will.

Legislator Albano noted when he was at the recent NYSAC conference he looked into the National Association of Counties (NaCO) and would like to research joining. He stated it sounds like membership has a lot of benefits. He stated he believes Putnam is the only County in the area who is not a member.

Legislator Gouldman stated he and Legislator Albano were both looking into NaCO. He questioned if Putnam had ever been a member.

Commissioner Carlin stated yes, but not for years.

Legislator Gouldman questioned why membership stopped.

Commissioner Carlin stated most of their events and conferences are far away.

Legislator Albano stated it looks like NaCO has expanded. He stated it should be looked into and see what they have to offer.

Legislator Wright stated he used to go to their quarterly meetings in Washington D.C. He stated NaCo was helpful with buttonholing Congressional representatives for assistance. He stated he found it worthwhile.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if Legislator Wright thought it was a good idea to rejoin.

Legislator Wright stated he does but noted his experience is from 40 years ago and he is unaware of the current structure.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated the committee will look into what they offer now and how much membership costs.

Item # 4 – Other Business-None

Item # 5 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 6:27 P.M. Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn;
Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant, Ed Gordon.