

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

Members: Chairman Jonke & Legislators Gouldman & Sullivan

Thursday

February 22, 2018

(Personnel Meeting Immediately Followed)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Chairman Jonke who requested that Legislator Gouldman lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Gouldman, Sullivan and Chairman Jonke were present.

Item #3 – Approval/Protective Services Committee Meeting Minutes/November 13, 2017
Chairman Jonke accepted the minutes as submitted.

Item #4 – Approval/2018 County STOP- DWI Plan/Director Probation Funicelli
Probation Director Gene Funicelli stated that in addition to being the Director of Probation he also is the Stop DWI Coordinator. He stated the Stop DWI Program is based on a concept to have an impaired driving prevention program that is self-funded. He stated it is funded by applying the DWI imposed fines to the State. He stated if a Stop DWI Program is maintained, the money is given back by the State to the County and the DWI Programs are funded with that money. He stated every year a budget is based on the fine money that was collected the previous year. He stated the County submits a plan to the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee in October at which time the plan is reviewed and approvals are sent in December. He stated that Putnam County’s plan has been approved by New York State. He explained that Putnam County’s plan has six (6) aspects to it. He stated it is a funding program for a variety of services. He stated the six (6) areas that receive funding, due to their involvement with the DWI Program Plan, are: Law Enforcement, Prosecution – District Attorney’s Office, Court Related Activities, Probation, Rehabilitation-Counseling Services and Public Information & Education related to the dangers of drinking and driving and Administrative costs.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if the funds for enforcement apply only to the County’s Sheriff Department.

Probation Director Funicelli stated the funds are used by all the local police departments and the Sheriff’s Department, but not the State Police.

Legislator Scuccimarra requested an overview of the Rehabilitation portion of the plan.

Probation Director Funicelli stated there is a certain amount of funding that goes towards any programs that the County does business with in terms of assessment and alcohol and substance abuse treatment.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve the 2018 Stop DWI Plan for Putnam County; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #5 - Approval/Fund Transfer (18T021)/Cover Overtime for Officers out on Leave and 207C/Sheriff's Department

Chairman Jonke stated this fund transfer is in the amount of \$6,791 to cover overtime as a result of Officers out on leave.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve and move to the Audit and Administration Meeting Fund Transfer (18T021)/Cover Overtime for Officers out on Leave and 207C/Sheriff's Department; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval/Budgetary Amendment (18A016)/Accept FY17 Homeland Security Grant Funding effective Sept, 1, 2017 through August 31, 2020 (\$274,920.00)/Acting Commissioner Clair

Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Rob Lipton stated that this money will be used to revitalize different areas of the Bureau of Emergency Services. He stated they will be updating the audio visual system in the auditorium, classrooms and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). He stated also some of the funding will be used to update and upgrade the security system in the Bureau of Emergency Services. He stated the cameras and relevant systems to the cameras will be upgraded. He stated also the Sheriff's Department will receive \$100,000 of the grant funding.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated the \$100,000 will fund the Emergency Response Team (ERT) annually. He stated \$35,000 for equipment and approximately \$60,000 reimbursement for training. He stated it is a County wide team made up of Officers from Carmel, Kent and the Sheriff's Department all receiving \$200 per day, per man, per training; they train about once a month. He stated he believes a vehicle will be purchased with the \$35,000. The vehicle will be shared. It will be used by the ERT and Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI).

Legislator Gouldman questioned how long is this grant.

Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Lipton stated it is a three (3) year grant, 2017 – 2020.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained the money must be spent in that time frame of three (3) years. He stated the grant money comes out annually.

Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Lipton stated the County has to apply each year. He stated that the County has applied already for the 2018 funding.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if the vehicle that is going to be purchased and shared; will it be replacing a vehicle or be an additional.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained it will be a vehicle that has additional capabilities. He stated currently the ERT uses the LAV, which is the Tank. He stated that is not

always the most appropriate vehicle to transport people in. He stated that he believes the new vehicle will be a van. He stated that there are circumstances that warrant an armored vehicle, in those instances the Tank would be used. He stated that the Tank has been used to safely evacuate people, such as in the incident that occurred in Brewster. He stated the people in the surrounding homes of where the assailant was were evacuated safely in the Tank.

Legislator Gouldman questioned how long it takes for the Tank to travel from where it is stored to the farthest area of Putnam Valley or Philipstown.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained the Tank is stored in Carmel at the ERT building. He stated that it drives like a car, its max speed is 50mph.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve and sent to the Audit and Administration meeting Approval/Budgetary Amendment (18A016)/Accept FY17 Homeland Security Grant Funding effective September, 1, 2017 through August 31, 2020 (\$274,920.00) ; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval/Budgetary Amendment (18A017)/Legislative Member Item (LG17-1278-D00) Grant through the Office of Senator Terrence Murphy/Sheriff's Department to Purchase a Drone (\$10,000.00)

Chairman Jonke stated he spoke to Sheriff Langley about the fact that the Sheriff's Department was going to use this funding from Senator Murphy to purchase a Drone. He requested that Sergeant Meyer please provide a little insight to the projected use of a Drone by the Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained that the plan is to purchase the Drone with interchangeable cameras infra-red. He stated the Drone will be used for search and rescue, to map out a crime scene, to reconstruct an accident; there are many potential uses of a Drone in the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Jonke stated Sheriff Langley explained to him that these Drones used by law enforcement have a longer usage time than the Drones the public use to take pictures. He stated as it begins to run out of power the Drone will take itself back to the home base.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained the FCC has specific requirements to register a Drone and training.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she believes a Drone will be very helpful in locating lost or injured hikers on Breakneck Mountain. She questioned if there would be a problem with the proximity of West Point, who has a no fly zone area.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated that is probably below a certain altitude, and he did not believe that a Drone flies that high.

Legislator Sullivan questioned the time frame for the purchase of the Drone.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained once the funding is put in the budget line, approximately 60 days. He stated they are hoping to have by the start of the 2018 summer.

Legislator Sullivan requested once the Drone is received and in used, please provide an actual update to where, when and who will be using the Drone. He stated that he believes the members of the County would be interested in that information.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated that is fine.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if there could be a demonstration given outside and have the media cover it, he believes it would be appreciated by the residents.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated there is more complication to the use of a Drone by a Sheriff's Department than one may think. He stated warrants and rules must be abided to. He stated the Sheriff's Department will get educated on all of that, before they make use of it or commit to doing a demonstration.

Chairman Jonke stated it is zero fiscal impact to the County. He stated the funding has been secured by Senator Terrence Murphy.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve and send to Audit and Administration Budgetary Amendment (18A017)/Legislative Member Item (LG17-1278-D00) Grant through office of Senator Terrence Murphy/Sheriff's Department to Purchase a Drone (\$10,000.00); Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Phyllis Hoenig, Resident, stated she was not aware that Putnam County had a tank.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer explained that they call it a "tank". He explained it is a light armored vehicle with wheels, not tracks. He stated that it is not the traditional military tank with a gun on top. He stated that there is no weaponry on it.

Phyllis Hoenig, Resident, questioned why Putnam County would need such a vehicle.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer repeated the incident that took place in Brewster, when the neighbors were able to be taken out of the dangerous situation in the "Tank" safely. He explained a regular police vehicle is not bullet proof.

Phyllis Hoenig, Resident, questioned if the tank was purchased.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated it was purchased from Westchester County. He stated that Putnam County paid \$1.00. He explained that Westchester County was upgrading to a different vehicle.

Item #8 – Approval/Budgetary Amendment (18A018)/Legislative Member Item (LG18-1003-D00) Grant through office of Senator Sue Serino/Sheriff's Department to upgrade

and up fit the department's Command Vehicle with communications equipment (\$15,000.00)

Chairman Jonke stated that there will be no fiscal impact to the County. He requested that Sergeant Meyer provide an overview of what this funding will be used for.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated the funding will be used to build out the Sheriff's Command Vehicle. He stated additional equipment will be installed. He stated the detectives and hostage negotiators would use the vehicle, providing a separate place for them to negotiate. He stated currently they do not have that.

Legislator Gouldman requested further clarification.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant Meyer stated that the Sheriff's department has a bus that is used for jail transports that is too big. He explained it does not fit into a lot of the garages of the courthouses. He stated the plan is to equip that bus and turn that into the Command Vehicle to be used for the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) and hostage negotiations, and I.D. the evidence processing people.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve and send to the Audit and Administration Meeting Budgetary Amendment (18A018)/Legislative Member Item (LG18-1003-D00) Grant through office of Senator Sue Serino/Sheriff's Department to upgrade and up fit the department's Command Vehicle with communications equipment (\$15,000.00); Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor

Item #9 – Approval/Appointments/Traffic Safety Board (2) members:

- a. Putnam County Sheriff Robert L. Langley (3 year term)**
- b. Town of Carmel Police Dept. Lt. John Dearman (3 year term)**

Legislator Gouldman questioned if the Sheriff needs to be appointed, given the fact that he is Sheriff.

Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated there are no ex officio members on the Traffic Safety Board, no one becomes a member just by virtue of holding some other title.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to Approve two (2) Appointments to the Traffic Safety Board: Putnam County Sheriff Robert L. Langley and Town of Carmel Police Lieutenant John Dearman; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item #10 - Discussion/New Radios For Emergency Responders/Acting Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services

Chairman Jonke stated that Acting Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair and Past Commissioner Anthony Sutton, who is currently working as a consultant to the County, are present to discuss this matter.

Acting Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair stated this project started being discussed before he or Consultant Anthony Sutton began working for the County. He stated the discussion of upgrading the County's low band system that the emergency responders communicate on has been a discussion going on for many years. He stated it is finally coming to fruition. He stated the towers are being erected. He stated the next step is to find the users and meet the needs of the County. He stated they are not sure what will be included in this. He stated that is how this discussion has come about. He stated it is not clear how much money will be needed for this project.

Legislator Sullivan questioned who exactly are the emergency responders and users you are referencing.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated during many of the previous discussions that took place in the Legislative committee format, it was explained that money that has been awarded via Federal Grants has been used to replace the microwave backbone of the current system. He stated that provided a link from one tower, to another tower, to another tower making a complete circle to cover the entire County. He stated the topography of the County prevents line of site, which is needed to have a system without interference. He stated this is a logistical matter that has been being worked on. He stated it involves the cell towers, which is the backbone of the system. He stated at the same time they have been trying to work on frequency coordination. He stated the FCC has farmed out the T-Band. He stated they are trying to move the emergency services to the 700- 800 megahertz frequencies. He stated the County is inching forward and getting to the place where radios that are in each vehicle or bay station. He stated they are called subscriber radios. He stated they are trying to get a handle on it; to determine how many radios would be needed and who pays for it. He stated to be honest in addition to this system there are a lot of private systems that the emergency services use throughout the County. He stated the fire departments use a high band radio system. He stated the hope is that the new County system will be turned on and not tell any of the other agencies to get rid of their systems they already have. Because there will always be a need to have your own private communications, but have the County system as the overarching coordination to communicate with all of the agencies throughout the County. He stated it is a multi-disciplined system the County is hoping to put together. He stated it will include, the departments of the Police, the Fire and EMS and develop the "Trunk System". He stated they are compartmentalized. He stated so there would be no cross talking or having other users having the ability to listen into confidential conversations. He explained that he did work with a similar system in Westchester. He stated that they were able to secure a good amount of Federal Funding because they partnered with the Bee Line Bus System. He stated the number of subscriber radios that will be needed is not yet known. He stated it will depend on how many vehicles are on the roads and how many portables will be in each vehicle. He stated it is a priority and a need.

Chairman Jonke questioned if the different agencies such as, Brewster Fire Department, Mahopac Fire Department etc. are responsible to purchase their own radios, and the County responsible to purchase the radios the County would need.

Acting Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair stated the County agencies include: District Attorney, Office of Senior Resources, Emergency Services, Sheriff's

Department, Highway Department, Probation and Transportation. He stated that includes both portables and mobiles. He stated that would be the County's portion of the radio system. He stated as explained it is a Trunk system, so we want all of the emergency responders on it. He stated that includes the Fire Departments and Emergency Services agencies. He stated also we would want the different police departments, Town of Kent, Town of Carmel, Village of Brewster and Village of Cold Spring.

Chairman Jonke questioned if the agencies are required to be a part of the Trunk System.

Acting Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair stated no it is not a requirement.

Consultant Anthony Sutton explained it is the belief that the improved service and coverage of the new system will attract all of the agencies to get on board. He stated to get back to the question of who will pay for this. He stated that is a policy decision. He stated the County has been applying for grants. He stated approximately for the past three (3) to four (4) cycles of Interoperable Communications grant funding they have been going towards the building out of the radio system. He stated the system that was built in Westchester cost approximately \$30 million. He stated and it is currently being replaced with a newer system that will probably cost close to \$60 million.

Legislator Gouldman questioned how long did they have the system that cost \$30 million.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated maybe 12 years.

Legislator Nacerino stated it is an expensive endeavor, while at the same time she recognizes that it is very important to have this effective communication throughout the County. She questioned if all of the agencies have been apprised of the long term plans, so they too were able to make the necessary preparations, both fiscally and from the planning standpoint within the departments of the local agencies.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated that they have done their best to keep the services aware. He stated that the Chiefs Association Meetings were meetings where the information, which the County had was shared. He stated they did not have a lot of information to share, but what they did have, they shared. He stated it was stated and encouraged that if an agency was planning to invest in the new system they should save some money each budget year to be ready. He stated a cheap radio can cost approximately \$4,500 up to \$7,000. He stated it all depends on the different features on the radio.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated obviously the goal is to have all of the agencies on the same system. She stated this is a tremendous financial burden to some of the Fire Departments and she would imagine the ambulance agencies as well. She stated she believes the message needs to be out there even more. She questioned how far off is the implementation of the new system.

Acting Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair stated the original projection is 18 months, but it may be longer in reality. He stated next Wednesday there will be a meeting

with Motorola Solutions, who will be designing the system. He stated that he has been encouraging all of the Fire Departments, Commissioners and Chiefs, to attend the meeting to ask their questions. He stated at that meeting there should be some updated and current information in terms of costs and projected outlook of completion and what funding is available.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned if there would be the opportunity to get on a State bid.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated the entire project is on a State bid. He stated there are only a few companies that can handle a job this size. He stated that Motorola Solutions is one of the best in this field. He stated there needs to be effective communications for the County's Police, Fire Fighters etc. He stated that there is no bundle of money that has not already been applied for. He stated that of course there can be a coordinated effort put forth. He stated every year there are Fire Act Grants that are made available for application. He stated unfortunately there is an effort on some of the communications systems to have radios that will be matched up with a specific battery. He stated the batteries will not be interchangeable to another radio. He stated that is the example of some of the different issues that need to be discussed and worked through. He stated that he believes the meeting next week with Motorola Solutions will be the first of many sessions. He stated that there is no way to find enough grant money to build the system, which then the question is how will it be a paid for.

Legislator Nacerino stated that this will be a tremendous financial burden on the County as much as it will be for the different departments. She stated the real objective is to make the assessment of how important it is to the Fire Department. She stated that based on the information that has been presented this evening all of the agencies have been aware of this.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated yes the grass root efforts to replace this system started with the local Police and Fire Departments because of the coverage issues that they face. He continued to discuss some different options, but he made it clear that there is no one decision to make, there is a lot of work still to do.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated some of the Fire Districts do not have a huge budget and are limited in their funding. She stated to say they should have been saving for this, but in some cases there may not have been the option to do that, due to their limited funds.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated that he is aware of that. He stated if it gets to the point where the decision is made to use money from tax payer dollars; then the questions is which pocket local or County.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she would not support funding one agency and not another.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated whatever system is created, the purchasing power of the County would be written into the contract. He stated as an example there would be a clause stating "Radio "X"(same radios the County would be using) will be made available to the approved users at the same cost for a period of five (5) years, or whatever is agreed to.

Legislator Scuccimarra questioned if leasing is an option versus buying the radios.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated that is an option, however there are a lot details that would need to be researched. He stated the County in the past was renting radios for a very long time, and probably paid for them, several times. He stated it was Deputy Commissioner Lipton who brought this forward, and the County at that time did a buyout. He stated in past years there was a precedent set when the County bought the radios for the departments and paid for all of the maintenance. He stated when the County went to try to find the radios, many of the departments did not even know they belong to the County and they had upgraded.

Legislator Albano stated that it may be a project that may need to be bonded.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that is a great suggestion and it would take the burden off these agencies.

Legislator Castellano questioned what the cost of the radios that are being used currently and their life expectancy.

Acting Commissioner Clair stated the current ones have been bought and paid for several times. He stated each department pays for the maintenance on them. He stated the problem with the current radios is that they are on a low band radio system, they will not work with the new system.

Legislator Castellano stated this must be an ongoing budget item for these agencies.

Acting Commissioner Clair stated that is accurate. He stated the old Motorola product was a good product and lasted approximately ten (10) years.

Edward Scott, stated that he wears many hats, Resident of the Town of Kent, Chairman of the Board for the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department, Secretary of the Putnam County Chief's Association and he is an employee of the Bureau of Emergency Services, he is a dispatcher. He stated that he is very familiar with the problems with the radio system in Putnam County, as he has been working with them for 40 years. He stated he is looking forward to the upgrades. He would like to speak to the burden all of this is putting on the local agencies. He stated that Fire Districts have the same 2% cap, as does the County. He stated as earlier stated the radios could cost \$4,000 -\$5,000 per radio. He stated the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department would need 15 portable radios. He stated if the County does not help pay for the radios needed by the different departments, this upgrade by the County would be similar to issuing an unfunded mandate to the departments. He stated other Counties in New York State have done radio upgrades. He stated Columbia and Renssenlaer Counties have done radio upgrades. He stated Columbia purchased all of the radios and pagers for the Fire Departments. He stated that Renssenlaer purchased the radios not the pagers, and then received an item grant from their State Senator. He stated Saratoga a few years back upgraded their system and purchased all of the radios.

David Brower, Fire Commissioner Garrison Fire Department, stated he would like to reiterate what was said by Edward Scott, this is a great burden to the Departments. He stated especially for the Town of Philipstown. He stated they have about 1/3 of the Emergency Services of the

western side of the County. He stated it would be a 'budget buster' for the Town of Philipstown. He stated he was just told by his Fire Chief that he needed to start saving approximately \$25,000 a year for the next four (4) years. He stated in terms of communications, he does not believe it was that great. He stated with a project of this magnitude you would think that the County would have reached out to the people of the Departments that actually handle the budgets. He stated that he appreciates that there will be a new radio system, especially since Philipstown currently has poor radio service. He stated he believes the recommendation of bonding is a great idea. He stated he appreciates anything the County can do for them.

Acting Commissioner Clair stated we are talking about the Fire and EMS Departments; let's not forget about the Police Departments. He stated the safety of our first responders is what is driving this upgrade of the radio systems. He stated that there are areas of the County where there is no radio or cell phone services. He stated that is not acceptable.

Legislator Sullivan stated clearly the upgrade is needed. He questioned when would a time table and budget be brought forward to the Legislature.

Acting Commissioner Clair stated he encourages the Legislators to attend the February 28th 7:00p.m. meeting with Motorola Solutions. He stated he believes after the meeting with Motorola Solutions next week, he will have a better idea of when all that information would be available.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she believes each town's first responder departments and police departments should be contacted to find out the actual number of radios they would need to equip their agencies.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated that was done approximately a year and a half ago. He stated the Deputy Coordinators were sent out to identify radios and get a count of the radios. He stated that was during the time when they were trying to find the County Radios. He stated that information may no longer be 100% accurate. He stated he agrees that all of that information needs to be collected as well as more conversations need to be had with the different Departments to gather facts that will be critical in the final evaluation of needs which will ultimately contribute to the negotiations. He stated the priority of Elected Officials and First Responders is to protect the health and welfare of the people who they serve.

Legislator Nacerino agreed that is where the value and necessity to move forward with this upgrade is coming from. She stated how it will be achieved remains to be seen. She questioned if a request can be sent to Senators Murphy and Serino to request if they can secure grant funding.

Consultant Anthony Sutton stated that they will do that. He stated also in the contract it can include that assistance be provided to the different Departments to write grants. He stated if a boiler plate form is provided it would help them.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated a lot of the Fire Departments do not know where to look for all of this. She stated they need to be helped to navigate through all of the options.

Legislator Sullivan stated that the Legislators will try to attend the Wednesday, February 28th meeting with Motorola Solutions. He requested again some projection of the time table and the amounts that needs to be budgeted. He questioned when does Acting Commissioner Clair believed he will be coming back to the Legislature with that information.

Acting Commissioner Clair projected possibly the summertime. He stated that they are currently discussing hiring a consultant company to take this project over. He stated it is a monumental project that requires knowledge and expertise in many different areas, such as radio design.

Chairman Jonke stated that the Legislature looks forward to the continued discussion and update to this very important matter. He stated that he will try to be in attendance at the February 28th meeting.

Item #11 - Discussion/Proposal - Address Numbers on House in addition to the mailbox to assist responders to 911 Calls/Eric Gross, Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board

Chairman Jonke stated that he was contacted by Eric Gross, EMS Representative on the Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board (ESSAB) requesting the opportunity to speak to this committee regarding the importance of accurate and visual identification of house numbers assisting with the efficiency of first responder's response to a call for help.

Eric Gross, EMS Representative Member on the ESSAB stated he would like to begin by mentioning some of the achievements of the ESSAB. He stated the ESSAB worked with Putnam Hospital Center allowing for upgraded communications that now allow emergency responders to correspond with each other while inside the medical facility. He stated they worked with the NYS Department of Transportation to have new signage installed on Route 52 near Horsepound Road, which has helped to reduce accidents at the area of the curve. He stated that they have met with Bicycling Groups regarding safety for both the cyclist and the motorist. He stated the ESSAB met with members of the Philipstown Town Board in 2017 regarding school safety concerns along Route 9D in front of the Haldane School Campus. He stated after discussions with the Sheriff's Department regarding the concerns they increased patrols to reduce the speeding motorists. He introduced the other members of the ESSAB that were in attendance at the meeting with him: Eric Peters, Vice Chairman, Eric Butler, Patti Frische, Fran McCarthy, Sergeant Laura Smith of the Carmel P.D. and Bob Lipton who is the Deputy Commissioner of the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services (BES) and Acting Commissioner of BES Ken Clair who is the ex-officio member. He explained the matter of accurate and visible house numbering in time of emergencies, when every second counts, is critical. He stated they have initiated a lifesaving campaign which urges all residents to install house numbers on mailboxes or on their homes. He stated as Acting Commissioner Clair recently stated "Let's help you save your life". He stated member Fran McCarthy shared an incident that occurred years ago, when she use to ride on the ambulance. She reported by the time they located the resident the person had expired, they were delayed because the responders could not find the house.

Eric Peters, Vice Chairman of the ESSAB, stated they are not advocating for something that is not already a New York State Building Code. He stated unfortunately many of the Towns adopt the code, but do not enforce them. He stated the minimum requirements are a 4 inch letter with a ½ inch brush stroke sharply contrasting, posted on the entrance way to your property, on the structure making it easily identifiable by a first responder. He stated in some instances the First Responders are looking for an address in the dark, rain, and traveling 40 -50 mph. He invited everyone in the room on their way home to see how many addresses they can identify. He stated the ESSAB recognized that the Town Enforcement Officers already have so much to do. He stated that is why they are here. He stated that the ESSAB is here to tonight to request the help of the Legislature to spread the word and make it a focus of the Putnam County Community. He stated the Town of Patterson website on their Building Code page states that residents should have reflective numbers. He stated that would be great. He stated the Google maps can get you to the area of an address, but having the compliant house number displayed makes the difference. He stated ideally having the number displayed on the mailbox and the beginning of the property and then on the house would eliminate any confusion in finding the address.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she is surprised that this is still such a problem. She stated that she represents the Town of Patterson and remembers when the 911 House numbering project occurred. She stated there was much discussion on the need for visible and accurate house numbering.

Eric Gross, EMS Representative Member on the ESSAB stated on the road that he lives on, Glenvue Drive in Carmel, there are some residents who still have the old number displayed prior to the new numbering 911 initiative that took place, many years back.

Legislator Addonizio stated that she came across this same problem when she was going door to door to meet her constituents during her campaign in 2017. She stated that she had a list of addresses that she was working from and in many cases could not locate the residence. She stated that she can see how this current situation can pose a serious obstacle for the First Responders. She stated also she believes it would be beneficial to have your house number displayed on both sides of your mail box.

Chairman Jonke stated that he was involved with the house number project when he worked for the Town of Carmel, in the early 90s. He stated there was a big push to display the house number. However he believes people have lost focus of how important it is to them to have their address displayed. He stated that he would agree to write a letter as Chairman of the Protective Services Committee to all of the Town Supervisors and Village Mayors requesting that they bring that matter back to the forefront.

Legislator Gouldman suggested that a short video be recorded and he would make sure that it would run on the Putnam Valley local television channel.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated that Chairman Jonke is absolutely correct. He explained it was about 20 years ago when the 911 System began and there was a huge push to get all of the houses numbered throughout the County. He stated over the years it has not been enforced. He

stated now the County is in a situation where it is becoming an obstacle. He stated that it needs to be brought to the attention of the residents.

Eric Peters Vice Chairman of the ESSAB stated he would like to recommend that Home Depot and the local hardware stores be approached and request that they have a section and advertise it as “These are 911 Compliant Numbers for Your Home”. He stated it would make it easy for the homeowners.

Chairman Jonke stated that he believes any message that is put out to the public regarding this matter, should include “For Your Own Safety....” He stated that he will send a correspondence to the Towns and Villages and request that they make this announcement at all of their meetings.

Legislator Gouldman stated that there was mention of the ESSAB creating a poster addressing this important topic. He stated if the ESSAB puts some bullet points together and contact him, he will work to get the posters produced.

Chairman Jonke stated each Legislator can contact their Town/Village elected officials and request that the posters be put up, for added exposure to the message.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she thinks this discussion has been great and there is a need to bring and raise awareness to this problem. She stated she does not think many people realize this is as big of an issue as it is. She repeated that she was not aware of it.

Item #12 – FYI/4th Quarter 2017 Coroners Report – Duly Noted

Item #13 - Other Business

Chairman Jonke made a motion to Waive the Rules and Accept the Other Business; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

- a. Approval/Appointments to the Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board two (2) Members: Sergeant Laura Smith (3 year term Exp. Jan. 2021) & Patti Frische (3 year term Exp. Jan. 2021)**

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve the Appointment of Sergeant Laura Smith & Patti Frische each to serve a three (3) year term to the ESSAB; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

- b. Approval/Re-Appointments to the Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board three (3) Members: Dave Jacobsen (3 year term Exp. Jan. 2021), Eileen Barrett (3 year term Exp. Jan. 2021) & Eric Peters (3 year term Exp. Jan. 2021)**

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Dave Jacobsen, Eileen Barrett and Eric Peters each to serve a three (3) year term to the ESSAB; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item #14 - Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:35 p.m., Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk of The Legislature Diane Trabulsy.