

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

Members: Chairman Gouldman & Legislators Castellano & Jonke

Tuesday

June 20, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:55p.m. by Chairman Gouldman who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Castellano, Jonke and Chairman Gouldman were present.

Item #3 - Approval/Protective Services Committee Meeting Minutes May 16, 2017

Chairman Gouldman stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 - Approval/Budgetary Amendment (17A032)/Grant Funding Awarded SFY 2016-17 Police Protective Equipment Program/Sheriff's Department

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment (17A032)/ Grant Funding Awarded SFY 2016-17 Police Protective Equipment Program/Sheriff's Department; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #5 - Local Law Repealing Chapter 231 – Wireless Surcharge

Chairman Gouldman requested that Putnam County Senior Deputy County Attorney Shannon Brady speak to this item. He stated that she prepared the version of the local law that is being reviewed this evening.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Shannon Brady stated the draft local law which she provided is identical to the model enactment that was recommended by the State Department of Taxation and Finance. She stated a minor change was made because Putnam County has a code provision pertaining to the Wireless Surcharge. She stated therefore it could not be completely repealed. She stated the draft she prepared, with the minor change, was reviewed by a contact in the State Department of Taxation and Finance and approved. She stated she was told the phrase "In Kind" in section (1) could be removed. However she did not remove it, she wanted to leave that decision up to the Legislature. She stated this will take out the wireless surcharge that is based on the Law that is being Repealed as of November 30, 2017. She stated the new tax law that is coming into effect will have a tax on both wireless prepaid and wireless postpaid cell phones. She stated that currently the tax is only on postpaid cell phones. She stated the County will receive \$.30 per sale of prepaid and postpaid cell phones. She stated the money will not come directly to the County it will go through the State. She stated that there was no choice in that. She stated so in order for Putnam County to receive the surcharge revenue this new law must be approved.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if the State will be taking a portion.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Shannon Brady stated Commissioner Carlin would need to speak to that matter. She stated that she is aware that there is wording in the tax law that speaks to fees and how they will be distributed.

Legislator Castellano questioned if a prepaid cell phone is purchased outside of Putnam County, would the surcharge still come to Putnam County.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Shannon Brady stated no.

Chairman Gouldman questioned Legislative Counsel Robert Firriolo as to his recommendation on whether to remove or keep the wording "In Kind".

Legislative Counsel Robert Firriolo stated he recommends removing it.

Chairman Gouldman facilitated further general discussion on this matter.

Lynne Eckardt, Town of Southeast Councilwoman questioned if the County could offset this charge with the revenue that will be collected from the Cell Towers. She stated that this \$.30 will be another tax on the consumer. She stated that is an optional charge per County in New York State.

Chairman Gouldman stated it is an interesting idea it could be looked into once the Cell Towers are up and operating.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve, including the discussed revision (*remove wording "In Kind"*), the Local Law Repealing Chapter 231 – Wireless Surcharge; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item#6 - FYI/Budgetary Amendment (17A031)/NYS Electric & Gas Donation to Bureau of Emergency Services- Defray the Cost of Fire Retardant Foam

Commissioner Sutton stated the County has a Foam Trailer and now the County will purchase the foam. He stated that in the case of a tanker fire, the most effective way to fight such a fire is with foam. He stated it will be a benefit to have this resource in the event there is a rail or roadway fire.

Chairman Gouldman questioned the shelf life of the foam.

Commissioner Sutton stated approximately five (5) years. He stated he has never seen it go bad.

Item #7 - Other Business

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to waive the Rules and Accept two (2) Other Business Items; Seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

#7a. - FYI/2nd Quarter 2017 Coroner Cases

Chairman Gouldman stated that this report will be provided to this Committee on a quarterly basis. He provided an overview of the report.

Legislator Albano stated he would like to request how the cases are being distributed amongst the three (3) County Coroners.

Chairman Gouldman stated that he will look into that.

#7b. - Approval/Homeland Security & Emergency Services/2017-18 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Program

Commissioner Sutton stated this grant is a request for \$5,172 which would be used to purchase foam. He stated that there is a 20% match. He stated the match can be done with in-kind services.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve the application of the Homeland Security & Emergency Services/2017-18 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Program; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #8 - Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:15 p.m., Chairman Gouldman made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk of The Legislature Diane Trabulsy.