

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM #318**

CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Members: Chairman Jonke & Legislators Gouldman, Sullivan

Thursday

August 16, 2018

(Immediately Following the Personnel Mtg @ 6:00p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 6:10p.m. by Chairman Jonke who requested that Legislator Sullivan lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Sullivan, Gouldman, and Chairman Jonke were present.

Item #3 - Approval/ Protective Meeting Minutes: July 19, 2018

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item #4 - Discussion/Car Fit Program Initiative – Specific to Seniors/ Sheriff Langley

Chairman Jonke stated Deputy Sheriff Michael Neuner will provide us with an overview of the Car Fit Program Initiative.

Deputy Sheriff Michael Neuner stated representatives from the Sheriff's Department will be going to the Senior Centers and properly fit any Senior Citizen who is interested properly in their car. He stated they will show them how to adjust their mirrors, adjust their seat and adjust their steering wheel, which helps in having the airbags deploy in the correct direction. He stated also some basic technologies of their cars will be shown to them that will assist them in the operation of their vehicle.

Office for Senior Resources Director Michael Cunningham stated this is a National Program supported by AAA and a group representing physical therapists as well as support from AARP. He stated there are specific guidelines and a manual that they follow. He explained the program has been conducted previously at some of the Senior Centers. He stated they will be having the program conducted at all four (4) of the County's Senior Center locations. He stated there is one tentatively scheduled, September 13th at the Koehler Center. He stated that later in the Fall the plan is to schedule Putnam Valley and in the Spring of 2019, when the new Philipstown Center and the renovated Carmel Center are up and running, they will hold the program at them.

Chairman Jonke questioned if people will need to sign up ahead of time for the program.

Office for Senior Resources Director Michael Cunningham stated there will be other programs being held in this same theme. He stated that there is an ophthalmologist scheduled to come and talk at the centers. He stated that they will promote these events, and they will schedule appointments. He stated each one on one session takes approximately 15 minutes. He stated that he has received feedback that some seniors are concerned that this program is in place to take away people's driving privileges and that is not the case at all.

Chairman Jonke questioned if this program could be run annually. He questioned Sheriff Langley whether it is permissible for a Senior to come to the Sheriff's Department at anytime to request help with positioning themselves safely in their vehicle. He explained it would be similar to new parents who could stop by a police station and request help fitting their infant and child seats in their cars safely and properly.

Sheriff Langley stated he would look into spreading that information around.

Office for Senior Resources Director Michael Cunningham stated the Putnam County Traffic Safety Board is working to reach out to the Towns and Villages to bring this program to their Senior Clubs. He stated that is another opportunity to reach Seniors.

Chairman Jonke stated that he believes it is a great program for our Senior Citizens. He stated his agreement that the message needs to be clear that this is not a program to take their driving privileges away.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if there is a specific training program that the deputies must take to be able to instruct this program.

Office for Senior Resources Director Michael Cunningham stated there is a program that needs to be taken to become a technician. He stated the Sheriff's Deputies do take the training program. He explained also volunteers can sign up to be a technician of this program. He stated the training is done in the Town of Patterson and Putnam Valley.

Sheriff Langley stated the rotary clubs have expressed an interest to be a part of this. He stated that he believes if more people get trained in the County, it will increase the ability to spread this important information beyond the Senior population.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if this is on the Sheriff's website.

Sheriff Langley stated that he will check to see if it is on the Traffic Safety Board website.

Office for Senior Resources Director Michael Cunningham stated that this program is targeting the Senior population so the information will be put on the County's Office For Senior Resources website.

Legislator Nacerino stated Peter Dandreano who does the training in the Town of Patterson is a friend and colleague on the Town of Patterson Board. She stated he is instrumental in moving this program forward. She stated she is happy to hear that there is attention being given to expand it.

Legislator Castellano stated he and Legislator Sullivan sit on the Traffic Safety Board. He stated that he did request that Legislator Jonke put this matter on this agenda. He stated that he is appreciative that it did make it on this agenda and agrees it is a great and valuable program. He explained that he commutes Monday through Friday 30 miles to work and 30 miles back home. He explained he sees that some elderly people are not positioned properly in their cars. He stated

that he believes this program really needs to be promoted throughout the County. He stated that he thanks Sheriff Langley for taking the initiative. He stated that he has discussed the program with Peter Dandreano, and agrees it is a great and valuable program.

Item #5 - FYI/ Budgetary Amendment (18A059)/To Cover Overtime Expenses Reimbursed through the Drug Enforcement Administration –Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force/Undersheriff Corrigan

Sheriff Langley stated that the Investigator who works with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) sometimes accrues overtime. He explained the DEA reimburses the Sheriff's Department for the overtime. He stated the County will pay the Investigator, but the budget line will be replenished with the funding eventually received from the DEA. He stated that he could not share any specifics but he stated this Investigator through his diligence in working with the DEA has accomplished a great deal.

Legislator Sullivan expressed his appreciation to the Sheriff and his team in the effort and work they are doing to combat this drug crisis. He stated he heard a report on the news that in 2017 72,000 Americans died from opioid overdose. He stated the reports went further to state that it is the highest number on record. He stated this problem is not going away, and he is glad to hear that Sheriff Langley and his department are involved in combating this crisis.

Sheriff Langley stated that it is important to work with other agencies. He stated that the Putnam County Sheriff's Department works with Westchester County, the DEA, Dutchess County, Orange County and Danbury. He stated that there is a recent rise in Fentanyl, which can be absorbed through the skin and inhaled; narcan does not work on a person overdosed on Fentanyl. He stated that he is confident that all of the collaborative efforts of all agencies is going to have a positive impact.

Item #6 - FYI/ Budgetary Amendment (18A060)/ Federal Seized Asset Reserve Funds to Purchase a Software Service Through the Sheriff App/ Annual Support Renewal will be funded through either Seized Asset or T-Commission Reserve Funds/Sheriff Langley

Sheriff Langley stated that through the use of the seized asset funds the Sheriff's Department is purchasing an App Program that will be used to keep in touch with the community. He stated it will be able to be downloaded free of cost. He stated that the Sheriff's Department will use it to send out notification of major road closures, major storm events, information on Emergency Operations Center during the aftermath of a storm, post dry ice locations, allows family members to put money in an inmates account to be used at the commissary, download movies, music, etc. He stated another very positive feature of the app is it allows the individual to send a notification of a crime or expected criminal activity. He stated that a picture can be attached to their notice and it can be done anonymously. He stated even if the records are subpoenaed to the company that operates the server for this, there is no way to trace back who made the anonymous text tip. He stated they anticipate this to be a tremendous tool for the Sheriff's Department, especially with narcotics deals.

Chairman Jonke questioned when he anticipates this will be up and operating.

Sheriff Langley stated a few weeks.

Chairman Jonke requested an explanation of how the Seized Assets Program works.

Sheriff Langley stated in accordance with the Department of Justice they mandate that only a law enforcement agency is authorized to determine how the funds from the Seized Assets Forfeiture Program are spent. He explained when there is money brought in a case involving drugs, if there is no way to prove the money was earned legitimately, it becomes a seized asset.

Chairman Jonke questioned if only seized assets in Putnam County.

Sheriff Langley stated if a Putnam County Investigator/Officer is involved with a case that has seized assets, then the County gets a portion.

Legislator Sullivan requested an explanation of the next part of the process of getting the App up and running.

Sheriff Langley explained the company will customize the App per the requests of his department.

Chairman Jonke facilitated further discussion regarding the future design of the App.

Sheriff Langley concluded the discussion by stating the primary purpose for the public of the app is to receive valuable information from the Sheriff's Department and for them to have a safe method of reporting a tip to the Sheriff's Department. He stated that his department will advertise to the public via social media once it is up and running. He reiterated that there is no fiscal impact to the tax payers.

Item #7 - Approval/ Fund Transfer (18T166)/To Pay for Conducting Complete Traffic Stops Training for Local Law Enforcement and the NYSP at the TOPS Center/ District Attorney Tendy

Chairman Jonke stated because there are questions regarding the fund transfers and there is no representation from the District Attorney's Office present, this matter will be tabled to the upcoming Audit and Administration meeting. He stated he will send a memo to District Attorney Tendy requesting that he or a representative from his office be in attendance at the August 23 Audit and Administration meeting.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to Table Fund Transfer (18T166)/To Pay for Conducting Complete Traffic Stops Training for Local Law Enforcement and the NYSP at the TOPS Center to the Audit & Administration Meeting; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #8 – Approval/ 2018 Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant Program/ Deputy Commissioner Robert Lipton

Deputy Commissioner Robert Lipton stated this is a new grant opportunity. He explained in the past there was the Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant, however this one has the word “Targeted”. He stated this funding is specific to equipment only. He stated the goal is to get more interoperability channels put into the towers. He stated there is no County match required if we are awarded. The application needs to be submitted by August 31, 2018. He stated that it is a competitive grant. He stated the maximum single award that any County could receive is \$6,000,000.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve the application for the 2018 Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant Program; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Item #9 - Approval/ Fund Transfer (18T173)/Purchase Rope, Anchors & Personal Protective Equipment for Technical Rescue Team and Purchase Uniforms for the Technical Rescue Team/ Acting Commissioner Ken Clair

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated that they are coming to the end of the Technical Rescue Grant and they are working to finalize the remainder of the money. He explained the reason that it came down to the wire is because the money was slated for training. He stated the training did not take place in the summer as planned. He stated that the instructors were not available and neither were the students. He stated rather than lose the funding this is a request to purchase items to equip the Technical Rescue Team.

Sheriff Langley stated he has Officers in his department that would be interested in being a part of the Technical Rescue Team.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated that they would welcome them.

Sheriff Langley stated that there are not the same numbers of volunteers as there were in the past. He stated this service may need to fall under a paid service.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Meeting Fund Transfer (18T173)/Purchase Rope, Anchors & Personal Protective Equipment for Technical Rescue Team and Purchase Uniforms for the Technical Rescue Team; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #10 - Other Business – None.

Item #11 - Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:05p.m., Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk of the Legislature Diane Trabulsy.