

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

CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Members: Chairman Jonke & Legislators Nacerino & Sullivan

Wednesday

6:30 p.m.

February 13, 2019

(Personnel Mtg. to Immediately Follow)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairman Jonke requested that Legislator Nacerino lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Nacerino & Sullivan and Chairman Jonke were present.

Item #3 - Update/Merging of the 911 Centers/ Commissioner Ken Clair

Chairman Jonke stated that Sheriff Langley, Sergeant Matthew Monroe, Commissioner Kenneth Clair and Deputy Commissioner Robert Lipton were present to speak to this update.

Commissioner Clair stated on Monday, February 11th there was a meeting with Sheriff Langley, Sergeant Monroe to touch base as to where the process of the merger was. He stated that they agreed on a list of items that need to be completed before the process can proceed. He stated the members of the Bureau of Emergency Services have secured estimates for new consoles. He stated they are narrowed down to two (2) companies that sell the consoles. He stated that they need six (6) new consoles. He stated his department is aware of what they need to get done on their end. He stated the Sheriff's Department has a list things they must address.

Chairman Jonke questioned if the six (6) new consoles are going to be in addition to the ones the County currently has to replace them.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated the six (6) new consoles will be in addition to the ones the County currently has.

Commissioner Clair stated they are looking at future expansion. He stated eventually they will have 12 consoles. He stated it may be decided that only three (3) consoles will be purchased this year and the last three (3) next year. He stated that they will decide when the prices are received.

Sergeant Matthew Monroe stated that in addition to the hardware issues there are workflow issues and training issues. He explained currently there are two groups of dispatchers that share a title, and that is it. He stated the Sheriff's Department Dispatchers do not have the level of training and expertise the Bureau of Emergency Services Dispatches have, specifically in the fire and EMS fields. He stated that the Sheriff's Dispatchers also serve many roles at the Sheriff's Office that would be difficult for them to do from the 911 Center. He stated that he has a list that addresses some of those concerns. He stated some of the high priority items the Sheriff's Department sees are the need to link radio consoles gain the ability to monitor the camera system and phone system, control access to the Sheriff's building from the 911 Center and computerize the data system etc. He stated also the Sheriff's Department during the day answers the main

phone line into the Sheriff's Department. He stated so there would need to be a solution to filling that main phone line administrator role.

Legislator Sullivan stated he is aware that this merger is highly complex and technical. He requested the Legislature get a summary of Sergeant Meyer's list. He stated it would be helpful for him and his colleagues to have the summary of the points being raised and issues that have to be address. He stated he would also like a list of the high level pros and cons regarding the merger. He stated additionally he would like a copy of the different figures related to this project. He explained such as the potential cost savings and the expenses that would be involved.

Sheriff Langley stated eventually they will be bringing forward matters related to the Public Safety Committee to the Personnel Committee which will demonstrate a potential savings.

Legislator Nacerino stated conversely if there is a learning curve for the Sheriff's 911 dispatchers is there the same for the Bureau of Emergency Services 911 dispatchers to learn the Sheriff's Department practices.

Sheriff Langley stated that is correct. He stated that there will be different phases to this merger. He explained Phase I will involve getting all of the equipment that is needed. He stated they will assure that all of the equipment is operational. He stated then Phase II will be involve moving the Sheriff's Dispatchers to the EMS building to operate in that building. He stated initially the Sheriff's Dispatchers will continue to do what their job currently is.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if they will continue to do their own jobs. She questioned if the dispatchers will be trained to be fluid in how to respond to all calls.

Sheriff Langley and Commissioner Clair both explained the eventual goal is to have all the Dispatchers trained in each other's departments.

Sheriff Langley stated he would like for Sergeant Monroe and Commissioner Clair to go to Charleston, South Carolina. He stated that they have the leading 911 Dispatch Center. He stated it came about because the system they had was such a mess and people died. He stated the end result of their awareness and efforts has made them the leading 911 Dispatch Driver. He stated that he believes a lot could be learned by making a visit there.

Chairman Jonke questioned what the time table is related to this merge project.

Commissioner Clair stated that they are planning to have the Sheriff's Dispatchers at the 911 Center by this Fall. He stated the Sheriff's Dispatchers would be doing their job function as they are currently doing at the Sheriff's Department. He stated it would be accomplishing getting the dispatchers all under one roof.

Legislator Castellano requested an overview of what currently happens when a call comes into the 911 Center.

Commissioner Clair stated when a call comes into the 911 Center, the Dispatcher answers, and responds depending on the type of situation of the call; if it is a fire call, of the two (2) to three (3) Dispatchers that are working one (1) will call the appropriate Police Department and the other will dispatch the appropriate Fire Department and/or ambulance, based on what is needed. He stated if the call is a Police Call, that call gets transferred to the Sheriff's Department.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated the 911 Bureau of Emergency Services Call Center (911 BES Center) dispatches all the calls. He stated once the dispatch is completed and the appropriate responding agency (s) is in route, then the call gets transferred.

Commissioner Clair stated a big issue he and Sergeant Monroe have identified is the redundancy. He explained that once a call is transferred from the 911 BES Center by the dispatcher, the caller needs to repeat their case to the Dispatcher they have been transferred to. He stated another obstacle is that calls are sometimes dropped in the transfer from the 911 BES Center.

Sergeant Monroe explained besides the challenge of the dispatcher who receives the transferred call from the 911 BES Center playing catch up, they do not have the most up-to-date information to provide to the caller. He continued to explain the other obstacles.

Legislator Sullivan stated while he was at the NYSAC (New York State Association of Counties) 2019 January meeting he had discussions with vendors and consultants who have worked on such projects. He questioned if there has been an effort to contact an agency that could offer guidance that would help streamline this process.

Commissioner Clair stated they have not done that.

Sheriff Langley stated that is why he would like to have Commissioner Clair and Sergeant Monroe go to Charleston, South Carolina. He stated he strongly recommends that they go for a couple of days. He stated that they would be able to make contacts who could then be called if there is an obstacle.

Legislator Montgomery questioned where the training for the Dispatchers is going to come from. She questioned if it will be coming from the Charleston, South Carolina 911 Call Center. She stated that she believes this merger is beneficial.

Sergeant Monroe stated there are countless examples of how to do this merger properly. He stated the Charleston, South Carolina 911 Call Center is a compatible reference, because they faced similar issues, the size of their operation is comparable to Putnam County and the size of the area that they cover. He stated also the financial constraints are similar. He stated that the proposal to visit South Carolina is to see how they managed the workflow and how to make the process efficient.

Legislator Montgomery stated the initiative to combine Town Fire Departments enabled them to apply for local government Efficiency Grants. She stated this is similar. She stated that she has experience working with the Efficiency Grants and offered to help do the research and to look for grant opportunities. She stated that she is confident that there are resources at FEMA

(Federal Emergency Management Agency) at the Emmitsburg, Maryland site for emergency response training as well. She stated if she can be of help, contact her. She stated that she believes this is a great idea and will save lives. She thanked them for the work on this.

Item #4 - Approval/ Putnam County Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board (ESSAB)- Re-appointment of Three (3) Members to Expire December 31, 2021/ Kevin Neary, Fran McCarthy & Patti Frische/ Commissioner Clair

Chairman Jonke stated that he attended the Putnam County Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board meeting last week. He stated that he was very impressed by the board and the group of local volunteers is very impressive.

Commissioner Clair stated the Chairman of the Board is Eric Gross who does a phenomenal job. He stated this Board does a tremendous amount of work for our County. He stated that they work closely with Deputy Commissioner Lipton on all that they do.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve the Re-appointment of Three (3) Members to Expire December 31, 2021/ Kevin Neary, Fran McCarthy & Patti Frische; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #5 - Discussion/ Putnam County Sheriff's Department Working Relationship with Homeland Security/ Sheriff Langley

Chairman Jonke explained this was a discussion item that Legislator Sullivan requested a few months back. However our meeting calendar has not coincided with the Sheriff's calendar for the past few months. He stated tonight, luckily, the Sheriff was able to attend.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if this discussion can take place in a public format, or does it need to be done in Executive Session.

Sheriff Langley stated he will answer any questions that will not compromise the Sheriff's Department working relationship with The Department of Homeland Security (Homeland Security).

Legislator Sullivan stated he would like an overview of the operations of the work that is done with Homeland Security.

Sheriff Langley stated one of the major operations is Human Trafficking. He stated there have been some cases in Putnam County. He stated Homeland Security has a vast database that assist with the tracking of such cases. He stated there are other aspects of human trafficking, such as child pornography. He stated the Sheriff's Department works with the Internet Crimes Against Children. He explained that is overseen by Homeland Security. He stated since most of these crimes do rise to an international level, Homeland Security obtains the warrants. He stated the Sheriff's Department is in the process of getting a new workstation to aid in computer forensics. He stated also there are times when they need to crack a code to get into a computer to access pictures to add to their evidence base. He stated the Sheriff's Department has received one (1)

of these workstations through the International Internet Crimes Against Children from Homeland Security. He stated that computer is fully dedicated to a case the Sheriff's Department is currently working on.

Chairman Jonke questioned what is meant by Human Trafficking in Putnam County.

Sheriff Langley stated prostitution. He stated the last case they had involved a minor. He stated the minor's Mother was using her child to earn money.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if there are a lot of those cases in Putnam County.

Sheriff Langley stated there are those cases in Putnam County. He stated he cannot speak to any active investigation. He stated working with Homeland Security opens a community's awareness to what is actually taking place in it.

Chairman Jonke questioned how many human trafficking cases were there in 2018.

Sheriff Langley stated there were two (2) that they were aware of. He stated, unfortunately if there are two (2), there are more. He stated one (1) case is one (1) too many.

Legislator Sullivan stated that there were articles in the newspaper that spoke to the Sheriff's Department working with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency).

Sheriff Langley stated he needed to offer clarification to that statement. He explained ICE works independently. He stated when ICE comes into the County, the Sheriff's Department is not made aware of the fact that they are coming. He stated he respects that. He stated that they are doing their job. He stated the Sheriff's Department will be contacted by ICE if they need something, and at which time we are more than happy to help. He explained when a person is brought into the Putnam County Jail their name is put into a data base, which ICE receives notification from. He stated should the person be in this Country illegally the software will match it up and the fact that there is a detainer on the individual, is then known. He stated if the person is committed to the jail the Sheriffs' Department provides facts related to the individual to ICE, such as the amount of time the person can be held. He stated if the individual makes bail that is the challenge. He stated that a detainer is not a warrant. He stated that a detainer is issued through ICE. He stated if the Sheriff's Department did hold an individual on a detainer, it is a violation of the person's civil rights. He explained if a person is held on a detainer it would be subject the County to a civil rights violation and law suit and the Sheriff would be subjected personally to the lawsuit. He stated the Sheriff's Department does all it can to cooperate with ICE.

Legislator Sullivan stated that Homeland Security has a lot to do with terrorism and it use to be the main focus.

Sheriff Langley stated anytime a terrorism matter arises the lead agency is the FBI's Joint Terrorist Task Force.

Legislator Sullivan questioned who handles drug trafficking.

Sheriff Langley stated that is handled by the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration). He stated a percentage of the money that is seized comes back to the Sheriff's Department and goes into the Seized Asset funds. He stated funds from the Seized Asset funds were used to purchase the Forensic Workstation.

Legislator Nacerino stated that this is a very complex and confidential matter. She thanked Sheriff Langley for providing a glimpse into this working relationship.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if Sheriff Langley would like to go into Executive Session in order for him to disclose more information to the Legislators.

Sheriff Langley explained that he would not go into any further detail than he has.

Item #6 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A003)/ FY18 Homeland Security Grant Awarded to Putnam County/ Commissioner Clair (Discovered after this meeting, that this Item was already approved at Feb. 2019 Full Mtg R#36)

Commissioner Clair stated this funding will be used for the Special Teams: HAZMAT, Fire Investigation, Technical Rescue Team and Fire Police to purchase equipment. He stated the Dive Team would like a boat. He stated an ATV is needed for the Technical Rescue Team for use on the Bikepath.

Chairman Jonke stated that Legislator Albano had a conflict and was unable to make tonight's meeting. Legislator Albano requested that Commissioner Clair make contact with the members of the Paladin Center. He stated Legislator Albano can pass along contact information if you do not have that information. He stated Legislator Albano stated that there may be even more grant money available if the County were to apply with Paladin.

Commissioner Clair confirmed that he would get in touch with them.

Legislator Nacerino requested Commissioner Clair speak to the Federal guidelines of this grant that requires 25% (\$68,730) of the Award be directed towards law enforcement terrorism prevention activities.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated that the Bureau of Emergency Services rounds out that amount and gives \$100,000 to the Sheriff's Department. He stated that they use it to support the Emergency Response Team and to purchase needed equipment.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if there is an opportunity to extend this type of grant funding to the local Fire Department. She stated that the local Fire Departments more and more are approaching their Town Boards for needed funding. She stated that in Philipstown she is very aware that their local Fire Department has approached the Town Board requesting funding for Fire Services, equipment and failing Fire Houses that are in need of renovations. She stated that she is aware that this grant was already applied for, but hopes in the future that could be considered. She stated she would like to find a way to help the local Fire Departments.

Deputy Commissioner Lipton stated each of the Fire Departments can apply for the Assistance Fire Fighter Grants. He stated it is a grant that has been annually available for many years. He stated an application must be submitted.

Sergeant Meyer stated for clarification the funding awarded in this grant, the FY18 Homeland Security Grant, cannot be used on capital improvements.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Committee Meeting Budgetary Amendment (19A003)/ FY18 Homeland Security Grant; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval/ 2019 County STOP- DWI Plan/ Probation Director Funicelli

Probation Director Funicelli stated Putnam County maintains a STOP-DWI program, which is funded entirely by funds collected in the County for DWI. He stated the fine dollars are sent to the State and as long as Putnam maintains the program the County recoups the money and it pays for the program. He stated there are seven (7) components: 1. Police Agencies 2. The Probation Department 3. The District Attorney's Office 4. Court Related practices: screening, assessment and treatment of DWI Offenders, 5. Rehabilitation. 6. Public Information/Education and 7. Administration. He stated each of these components receive funding from the STOP – DWI program. He stated the budget is done for the STOP –DWI Program during the budget process in October. He stated the plan is submitted to the State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee after budget time. The plan follows the budget.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to Approve 2019 County STOP- DWI Plan; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #8 - FYI/ Budgetary Amendment (19A012)/ Funds from Putnam County Correctional Facility Inmate Welfare Account to Purchase Televisions & Microwaves for the Sheriff's Office and Correctional Facility/ Sheriff Langley

Sheriff Langley explained that Inmate Welfare Account funding can only be used on something that benefits the inmates.

Item #9 - FYI/ Budgetary Amendment (19A009)/ Use of T-Commission Reserve Funds to Purchase both a Black Catt II Radar Recorder with Laptop and Traxpro Software and a Black Catt II Radar Recorder Kit with Locks & Chains for the Sheriff's Office and the Correctional Facility/ Sheriff Langley

Sheriff Langley stated these devices can be used at locations where speeding is reported as being a concern. He stated it will monitor the location, generate a report that will indicate the direction of travel, the type of vehicle and the time of day. He stated the devices will be useful to the Sheriff's Department as well as the other police departments. He stated it may also serve to be useful to the Highway Department to determine the issue with different County Roads based on the complaints that come into their office.

Chairman Jonke questioned how many of these devices does the Sheriff's Department currently has.

Sheriff Langley stated currently there are none.

Item #10 - FYI/ Fund Transfer (19T018)/ Purchase 2019 Annual Pro-rated Law Enforcement Software for Lexipol/ Sheriff Langley

Sergeant Meyer stated Lexipol is a company that will update the Sheriff's Department policies and procedures, web base them and provide in-service training for the Sheriff's Department. He explained it is two (2) parts: the building of the policies and procedures and then there is the ongoing training. He stated it is a web based subscription model and the cost is about \$17,000, which is pro-rated for 2019 through to the end of the year and the requested Budgetary Amendment (19A020) (budgetary amendment #19A020 the next agenda item #11) will pay for the actual building of the policies and procedures.

Item #11 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A020)/ Use of T-Commission Reserve Funds to Purchase a Law Enforcement Policy Manual and Support Package from Lexipol, LLC for the Sheriff's Office and Correctional Facility/ Sheriff Langley

Chairman Jonke stated this is the budgetary that Sergeant Meyer just referenced. He stated it is in the amount of \$19,803.00.

Legislator Nacerino made a motion to approve and move to the Audit & Administration Budgetary Amendment (19A020); Seconded by Chairman Jonke. All in favor.

Item #12 - Other Business

Chairman Jonke made a motion to waive the rules and accept the Other Business; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

a. FYI/ Letter from Town of Southeast Fireworks Committee – Regarding the Annual Event to be Held June 30th, rain date July 7, 2019/ Chairman Jonke

Chairman Jonke stated this much anticipated annual event will be taking place again this year. He stated that the Sheriff's Department did a great job last year working this event. He stated that last year's cost for the Sheriff's Department to have a presence at the Fireworks event was \$9,200, a significant decrease over the prior years.

Legislator Castellano requested that Chairman Jonke provide the date information.

Chairman Jonke stated the date is Sunday, June 30, 2019 at the Highlands Shopping Center. He stated the rain date is Sunday, July 7th. He stated the band begins playing at 8:00p.m. and the Fireworks begin about 9:30p.m. He stated it is really a great community and family event.

Item #13 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:20 PM Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn;
Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.