

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
BUDGET MEETING
HELD IN COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING- RM#318
40 GLENEIDA AVEUNE, CARMEL, NY 10512
Members: Chairwoman Nacerino & Legislators Sayegh, Sullivan**

Monday

October 17, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairwoman Nacerino who requested Legislator Sullivan lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Sayegh, Sullivan and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

Item #3 – 2023 Budget Review

Judicial Expense (Cnty. Share) – 1162 (page 3)

Legislator Sayegh -54647 page 3 questioned what falls under the Subcontractors budget line.

Deputy Commissioner of Finance Mike Lewis offered a few examples, the garbage company, the cleaning company of the County Office Buildings, and the security.

Legal Aid – 1170 (page 8) – Duly Noted

Legal Defense (County Appointed Indigents) 1171 (page 9)

Chairwoman Nacerino stated she was informed that the rates have increased and that is why we are seeing an increase in the budget.

Deputy Commissioner of Finance Mike Lewis stated that is correct the rates will almost double. He stated there has been no change in the rates since 2004.

JP & Constables – 1180 (page 10)

Chairwoman Nacerino stated it is level funding.

Deputy Commissioner of Finance Mike Lewis stated that is correct. He stated the County is required to pay the State of New York \$10.00 per incident for felony fees.

District Attorney – 1165 (pages 4-7)

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the District Attorney is not present. She requested Deputy Commissioner of Finance Lewis address the questions, if he can.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned what falls under the Special Services - 54682 (page 5).

Legislative Counsel Rob Firriolo stated that applies to Expert Witnesses.

Coroners – 1185 (pages 11-12)

Chairwoman Nacerino stated what jumped out to her was the increase in the Contracts budget line -54646 on page 11. She learned that this increase is due to the increase at the Funeral Homes.

Deputy Commissioner of Finance Mike Lewis offered that the transportation fee to the morgue was approximately \$325, and it has been flat for several years. He stated that fee is increasing to \$600.

Legislator Montgomery questioned why the Coroners were not given the COLA 3.5% increase.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that is a question that should have been presented at the Personnel Budget meeting.

Legislator Jonke explained it was believed that all of the Coroners have provided so much of a savings to Putnam County, in that the County does not need to have a medical examiner. He stated so their salaries were rounded up to \$25,000 each. He stated the County has three (3) good Coroners. He stated there was also an increase to the Secretary to the Coroners, which is listed in the budget, he stated he does not recall the exact amount.

Legislator Montgomery stated that we are present to speak to the Tentative 2023 Budget. She stated many people were not available at the at the Personnel Budget Meeting. She questioned if we are addressing those questions tonight.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated tonight is the Protective Services Budget Meeting and will not be addressing Personnel Budget matters. She stated any outstanding questions can be presented at the upcoming Budget and Finance Meeting.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion addressing that Personnel matters of the Budget would not be addressed at the Protective Services Budget Meeting.

Sheriff - 3110 (pages 54 – 74)

Chairwoman Nacerino recognized the fact that the 2023 tentative budget includes a Comp Time Payout PCSEA - 51092 (page 54). She stated in the past the projected funding for the Comp Time Payouts was included in the Overtime.

Sheriff McConville confirmed he worked with Commissioner Carlin and Deputy Commissioner Lewis to establish the Comp Time Payout PCSEA - 51092 (page 54).

Chairwoman Nacerino explained the request for a Comp Time Payout can come at anytime from a member of the Sheriff's Department who is also a member of the PCSEA Union.

Sheriff McConville confirmed that fact and explained that in creating the newly established Comp Time Payout PCSEA - 51092 (page 54) they looked back seven (7) years and came to the proposed amount of \$100,000.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested an explanation for the need for funding for Furniture and Furnishings - 52110 (page 54).

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated the office furniture throughout the Administration is damaged and beyond repair.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated Motor Vehicles – 52650 (page 54) there is \$99,500 proposed.

Sheriff McConville confirmed they will be purchasing new vehicles. He explained two (2) vehicles used by the Sheriff's Administration will be decommissioned, and in fact one of them is already decommissioned. He stated the longer the vehicles are kept and used, the more costs are incurred on the maintenance and repairs. He stated they are also facing a long delay in receiving the parts for the repairs.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated Other Equipment – 52680 (page 54) includes the Body Cameras and Lighting, Sirens for the vehicles.

Undersheriff Lindert stated that is correct. He explained AXON provides the equipment for the vehicles. He stated if the two (2) vehicles discussed earlier are purchased, they will need to get equipped.

Sheriff McConville stated the industry has recommended that a 10% increase be included due to the increase in the price of a new vehicles in this market.

Legislator Sayegh questioned how often the Administration Vehicles get switched out.

Sheriff McConville stated the ones being replaced are nearly nine (9) years old.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the option of Leasing was considered, as is the practice in the Narcotics Department.

Sheriff McConville stated they are currently Leasing Vehicles in some of the other Divisions for the first time. He stated they want to wait and see how it plays out. He stated there already have been a few matters that have arisen that would need to be resolved. He stated until then they will proceed in this way.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if electric vehicles were considered.

Sheriff McConville stated all types of vehicles were considered. He stated they are looking to purchase two (2) gas vehicles.

Legislator Montgomery requested an explanation for the Building Maintenance - 54710 (page 55).

Undersheriff Lindert stated that is to secure the doors. He stated the main entry doors, any and all doors around the entire building. He stated also the secondary and interior doors are included.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if that was discussed in the Capital Projects Meeting.

Undersheriff Lindert stated the amount requested did not warrant it needing to be reviewed at the Capital Projects Meeting.

Legislator Gouldman requested they speak to Computer Equipment on 52130 – (page 54).

Sheriff McConville stated there are aging computers in the Sheriff's Department. He stated he has worked with IT/GIS Director Lannon who advised him to use a Cycle Program to get the computers replaced. He stated they have a large number of five (5) plus year old computers. He stated the hard drives are slowing down, etc.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested confirmation that the Audio-Visual Equipment lines- 2140 and 52640 (page 56) is funding that will be used to update the equipment in the interview room.

Sheriff McConville stated that is correct. He stated in the Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) the Interview Room Electronics are outdated and ineffective. He stated one of the lines will fund the BCI Investigation Room and the other line will fund the Conference Room Audio-Visual Equipment. He stated the standards need to be brought up so that remote training can be conducted. He stated currently live on-line training is not reliable on the current equipment.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested the Sheriff and/or Undersheriff speak to the Motor Vehicles – 52650 (page 56).

Undersheriff Lindert stated that request is to replace the Ford F-350 that is used for towing.

Sheriff McConville stated said vehicle is 12 years old and has 103,000 miles on it and has extensive frame rot.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned Vehicle Leasing/Rental 54210 (page 59).

Undersheriff Lindert stated they wanted to explore the leasing with the Civil Vehicle. He stated they learned that the funding needs to be in the 2023 budget to be used for 2024.

Sheriff McConville stated the vehicle will not be available until 2024.

Legislator Sayegh questioned why the Software Accessories – 54782 (page 4) budget has almost doubled.

Sheriff McConville stated that is for the Civil Department to run a computer program. He stated it will tie into the new Records Management System.

Captain of Civil Bureau Michael Grossi stated it will also allow them to use “Civil Mobile”. He stated that will allow the Deputies to have terminals in the cars that will tie into the main system. He stated that way the Deputies will be able to add data and receive paperwork while out in the field.

Sheriff’s Fiscal Manager Kristen VanTassel stated the cost of the software is a one-time fee of \$4,700 and then it will be an annual fee of \$900.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated there is an increase in the Temporary line – 51094 (page 59). She stated that is the budget line the SPOs (School Patrol Officers) are paid from.

Sheriff McConville stated that is correct. He stated there was a retention issue at the rate of pay they had so they met with Commissioner Carlin and Deputy Commissioner Lewis and requested an increase in the rate of pay for the SPOs.

Legislator Montgomery questioned the Overtime line – 51930 (page 62). She stated that \$15,000 was budgeted for 2022 the actual spent is listed at \$4,783.29. She stated the requested amount for 2023 is \$15,000 again. She stated it appears that it could be an area to reduce.

Captain Bureau of Criminal Investigation James Schepperly stated they have not used the allocated amount this year because they were down in staffing. He stated they made the decision to cut back commercial vehicle enforcement, reluctantly. He stated they are now staffed to the point they need to be. He stated this year will resume and finish the year, but it will be below the \$15,000.

Legislator Montgomery questioned Overtime – 51093 (page 63) it was budgeted at \$20,000 for 2022. She stated the actual used is \$6,924.01. She questioned why the Sheriff’s Department is requesting again \$20,000.

Captain Bureau of Criminal Investigation James Schepperly stated he expects to be fully staffed. He stated five (5) new deputies have been hired and there are five (5) in the academy who will be on patrol in late January- February of 2023. He stated these were assignments that had to be set aside due to the lack of staffing. He stated the priority is always staffing patrols.

Sheriff McConville stated in 2023 they will be fully staffed and they expect next year to be out even more frequently. He stated they have been meeting with the Lake Group to discuss concerns they have and they will work together to address them.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested Sheriff McConville speak to the Overtime -51093 (page 64).

Sheriff McConville stated there is one (1) Deputy assigned to fulltime military leave since March of this year, and based on his orders will be out until at least the end of 2023, possibly longer. He stated there is a second Deputy out on medical leave and another Deputy who is a reservist. He

stated in addition to filling his service requirements he is frequently redeployed and reassigned due to the nature of his service. He stated the assignments come up very suddenly and go on for a long period of time. He stated there are two (2) Patrol Supervisors out on 207C.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion on the tentative 2023 budget of the Sheriff's Department. There were no changes proposed. It was stated several times that inflation is the reason for many of the increases in the 2023 Tentative Sheriff's budget.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the Sheriff's Department will bring the number of patrols up to six (6) again.

Sheriff McConville stated, as he said in March of 2022, he will not divulge the number of patrols on the road. He stated he will say that they have significantly improved the number of patrols on the road, all at regular rate of pay, without incurring overtime.

Legislator Montgomery stated that she still has concerns that there are not six (6) patrols on the road.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion on that matter.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned the Overtime 51093 (page 66).

Sheriff McConville stated that has to do with the County's Emergency Response Team (ERT). He stated and the other members of the ERT Board of Directors, Chiefs of Police for the Carmel and Kent Departments and himself, have decided that the ERT needs to be certified. He stated they will first work to achieve the accreditation of the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and then go for the National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA). He explained the training will of course be beneficial to building on the skill base of the members of the ERT which is valuable to the members of the public, and will avail the ERT to be eligible to receive grant funding that requires specific accreditation.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated a brief discussion regarding the Dogs that work in the Sheriff's Department: Drug, Bomb, Blood Hound and Electronic.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested in relation to the Motor Vehicles line – 52650 (page 72) what is the replacement schedule that is used.

Sheriff McConville stated they just wrote a new policy on Fleet Management that they are reviewing and finalizing it. He explained it is a combination of a few things: mileage, wear and tear, damage to the vehicle, and replacement components. He stated they meet with the County Garage Fleet Manager and a determination is made as to whether it is reasonable to invest additional funding into a vehicle or if it is time to decommission it.

Legislator Sayegh question on page 73- 44389 "Federal Aid- Other PS for the Women's Resource Center" if that is funding for new facility.

Sheriff McConville stated that is correct. He stated as a point of reference the Sheriff's Department has used it at least 15 times in the past month. He stated the Carmel Police Department have made use of it. He stated they also make it available to the Kent Police Department, the State Police and the District Attorney's Office.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated there is an increase in the Jail Medical Services Contracts line 54646 (page 78). She requested the Sheriff to speak to that.

Sheriff McConville stated New York State has mandated that Correctional Facilities provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) to any inmate that has an addiction issue. He provided a brief overview of each and explained that is what generated the increase in the Jail Medical Services Budget.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if there is Methadone Treatment available.

Captain Greenough stated if an inmate comes into the jail on Methadone, as of October 7, 2022, the State requires the individual be treated while in the Jail. He explained the supply is brought into the Jail.

Legislator Sullivan questioned the current inmate population in the Putnam County Jail and the total capacity.

Sheriff McConville stated as of this morning they were at 57, and the total capacity is 120.

Legislator Sullivan stated so as a result of the Cashless Bail policy it has reduced the number of people in Jail, however it has not reduced the cost to run the Jail. He stated we are not receiving any relief from our representatives in Albany. He stated we are spending the same amount of money on less than half the population in the Jail. He stated it is terrible for the taxpayers.

Legislator Gouldman questioned Interim Probation Director John Osterhout as to the affect of Bail Reform on the Probation Department.

Interim Probation Director John Osterhout stated it has exponentially increased the work the Probation has to do for Pre-Trial Supervision. He stated they used to have one (1) or two (2) people per year. He stated now they have 40 to 50 at any given time. He stated they will also have 10 to 15 people on electronic monitoring, which is an expense to the County as well.

Legislator Sayegh questioned how many more years the County will receive funding from Indian Point (page 87).

Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services (BES) Robert Lipton stated 2023 will be the last year.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if the expenses will evaporate also.

Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated no they will not.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested an explanation of what falls under the Other Equipment line – 52180 (page 87).

County Auditor Michele Sharkey stated that includes the Light Towers and the Message Boards.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the Maintenance & Repairs -54710 (page 88) has increased substantially. She requested Commissioner BES Clair speak to that.

Commissioner BES Kenneth Clair stated that is funding for the Fire Training Center. He stated as the facility ages they are faced with maintenance costs. He stated it is more of an Operating Budget. He spoke briefly to that.

Item#11 - Other Business - None

Item #12 - Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:04PM Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.