

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Held in Room 318**  
**Putnam County Office Building, Carmel, NY 10512**  
**Members: Chairwoman Nacerino & Legislators Sayegh & Sullivan**

**Wednesday** **July 21, 2021**  
**(Health, Social, Educational Environmental Comm Mtg Immediately Followed)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM 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 - Approval/ Protective Services Committee Meeting Minutes/ June 17, 2021**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

**Item #4 - Approval/ Fund Transfer (21T126)/SHSP (State Homeland Security Program) Grant- FY2018 (Reso 36/2019)/ Purchase 911 Center Video Wall & Purchase EOC System Upgrade/ Commissioner Bureau of Emergency Services (BES) Kenneth Clair**

Chairwoman Nacerino requested confirmation that this request has a zero fiscal impact to the County Budget.

Deputy Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton confirmed that was correct.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if this is something that was cited, included in the 911 Dispatch Consolidation plan.

Deputy Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated it is not.

Legislator Sullivan stated he believes these new screens will be very beneficial to the function of the 911 Center and is in full support of this request.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Fund Transfer (21T126)/SHSP Grant- FY2018 (Reso 36/2019)/ Purchase 911 Center Video Wall & Purchase EOC System Upgrade; Seconded by Legislators Sayegh and Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #5 - Approval/ Budgetary Transfer (21T128)/ Funding for Two (2) Emergency Service Dispatcher Positions/ Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services (BES) Ken Clair**  
**(Also reviewed at Personnel 7/13/21)**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this matter was also addressed and approved at the Personnel Committee Meeting on July 13, 2021.

Deputy Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton stated they currently have 12 Dispatchers and in 2013 there were 14 Dispatchers. He stated they are requesting the two (2) Dispatchers to bring the number of Dispatchers back to 14.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated it was mentioned at the Personnel Meeting, that running the 911 Center with a deficient number of Dispatchers makes it very difficult in a number of ways. She stated the safety of our residents is paramount and to ensure our Dispatchers are not overly fatigued is important. She requested that Deputy Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton repeat the points on the 6-month training and the challenges of trying to run the department with Temps.

Deputy Commissioner of BES Robert Lipton spoke to those topics.

Commissioner of BES Ken Clair addressed the challenges with trying to run the 991 Center with part-time employees. He concluded by stating part-timers in this type of position, does not work.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated she believes the need is clearly justified and is in support of this request.

Legislator Sullivan stated we are discussing the 911 Call Center that operates 365 days a year 24/7. He stated it is a critical department to our residents and he also is in support of this request.

Legislator Sayegh reiterated the sentiments of her fellow committee members. She stated the 911 Dispatchers are the first line of our County's protective services and it is important we invest in having a full staff for the 365 days a year, 24/7.

Legislator Albano stated he would like to commend Commissioner Clair and Deputy Commissioner Lipton for the great work they are doing currently managing the 911 Call Center. He stated they should be very proud of the work that is currently being done.

Commissioner of BES Ken Clair thanked Legislator Albano and spoke to the challenges the Dispatchers currently are navigating expertly.

Legislator Jonke stated, as it was said in the Personnel Committee Meeting, this is a critical service for the safety and wellness of the residents here in Putnam County. He expressed his support of this request.

Legislator Addonizio stated her support for this request.

Legislator Montgomery questioned what was recommended in the Blue Wing study in terms of the appropriate number of Dispatchers Putnam County should have.

Commissioner of BES Ken Clair responded it was in the area of 20 Dispatchers.

Legislator Montgomery stated she thinks 20 Dispatchers may be excessive. She stated it is great that the Dispatchers have been operating, but it is not great, because they are overworked, they are tired, and it could be a risk to public safety. She stated she believes it is unfortunate that the decisions were made and action taken before the County had a professional study done of the

consolidation or the staffing. She stated she did work as a Dispatcher and knows first-hand the demands on these individuals.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated we all agree that safety is paramount, and the County is moving in the right direction. She stated if it is determined that additional staffing is required that will be considered and evaluated during the upcoming 2022 budget reviews.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve/ Budgetary Transfer (21T128)/ Funding for Two (2) Emergency Service Dispatcher Positions/ Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

**Item #6 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (21A061)/ Use State Seized Asset Funds for Purpose of Securing a 12-month Renewal of Software and Licenses from Callyo 2009 Corp. / Sheriff Robert Langley**

Sheriff Langley explained this request involves the use of Seized Asset Funds, which has a zero impact to the taxpayers. He stated said funds are seized through the Sheriff's Department operations with investigations for Narcotics activity. He stated the requested software and license is used by the Narcotics Division.

Legislator Sullivan stated he believes this is a good use of the Seized Asset Funds and supports the purchase of this request.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (21A061)/ Use State Seized Asset Funds for Purpose of Securing a 12-month Renewal of Software and Licenses from Callyo 2009 Corp.; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #7 - Approval/ Municipal Certificate of Need Application/ Bureau of Emergency Services (BES) Commissioner Ken Clair**

BES Commissioner Ken Clair stated back in 2015 Putnam County submitted an application for a Municipal Certificate of Need (CON), because the Vendor they were working with CON was in question. He stated the application was withdrawn, because the Vendor the County contracted with had a CON. He stated BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake is present this evening to speak to the request that the County submit an application to obtain a CON.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated the County's current vendor has a CON that will be expiring December 31, 2021, that engaged the RFP process for a new vendor, which of course could result in the same vendor. He stated a task force was put together with representatives from several emergency response organizations throughout Putnam County. He stated the representatives were duly elected by the EMS Council and the Fire Advisory Board. He stated the Task Force identified several changes to the most recent RFP to broaden the pool of qualified vendors who can bid. He stated they would like to apply for the County's CON.

Chairwoman Nacerino explained she has contacted several people to discuss this. She stated for clarification what is being discussed is the request for the County to apply for a Municipal CON for Advanced Life Support First Response and Ambulance Services. She requested that the advantages of this versus the private sector be presented.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated primarily there are only three (3) independent Vendors that hold operating authority in Putnam County. He listed the vendors. He explained by the County having the CON that broadens the potential prospect of Vendors they can choose from.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned if the size of Putnam County is a deterrent in any way.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake explained he does not believe it is. He stated even though we are a small County we are a very busy County when it comes to EMS.

Legislator Sullivan stated so it sounds like the County having a CON opens the field of vendors we can select from. He questioned if there are any downsides to the County having a CON.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated the primary concern was the County carrying the liability via the CON. He explained through his research he found the way the State Program for Municipal CON is written, the operating authority holder has the right to assign the liability, staffing, financing, and billing to the vendor.

Chairwoman Nacerino explained it is her opinion that having government control over the private sector is a difficult and arduous task. She stated she believes before we move forward, we need to do a comprehensive analysis that would engage our health community, public health sector and our EMS coordinators. She stated she needs to see the justification and supporting documentation to prove it would be the right decision moving forward.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake explained this request to get approval to apply for the CON comes from the RFP Task Force. He stated the members of the RFP Task Force are made up from the Fire Advisory Board and the EMS Council.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that she believes there are more groups that need to be consulted. She explained she would like the process to be transparent and looks at this as a very big decision for the County and the taxpayers.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Table Approval/ Municipal Certificate of Need Application; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion on this item.

Legislator Sayegh stated she would like additional information regarding the liability to the County.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if this is time sensitive.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated they have 30 days. He stated the County would need to have the CON in order to broaden their choice by November - December of 2021 which is when the contract assignment must be made.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated a Special Protective Services Meeting and a Special Full Meeting, if need be, can be scheduled to get this done. She stated that an informed decision must be made. She stated there is still more information that must be gathered, and she is hesitant at this point of time to move forward with this request.

Legislator Albano questioned if the County obtains a CON, but then hires a Vendor that has their own CON, could the County withdraw theirs.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated no, once a CON is obtained by a County it must be used.

Sheriff Langley requested confirmation as to if an application is made can it be withdrawn, sometime during the 30-day period.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated yes, that is correct. He stated this is what occurred 2015. He explained if the County is awarded a CON and it is not used, it can be rescinded or revoked, and it would prevent the County from ever applying for a CON again. He stated so as long as it is withdrawn before the CON is issued, the County can reapply.

Sheriff Langley stated the County could start the application process, while the matter is being researched, and then the County could withdraw the application prior to the issuance.

Legislator Albano questioned if it is feasible to submit the application and withdraw it prior to it being issued to the County.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated that is correct. He stated 30 days is the longest the County can wait to submit an application. He stated they met with the County's Director of Purchasing and that was what was stated.

Legislator Castellano requested for clarity that if the County has a CON and relinquishes it the County can never get a CON again.

BES Director of Emergency Medical Services Casey Quake stated that is correct.

Chairwoman Nacerino expressed her appreciation for the information shared this evening and stated she will look into this matter deeper.

**Item #8 - Approval/ Acknowledge the Putnam County EMS Council as the Putnam County EMS Advisory Board Under NY County Law CNT 223-b. titled EMS Training and Mutual Aid Programs/ Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Ken Clair**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated she would like to put a vote to Table this item. She explained she believes there is a lot more information needed, and the proposed resolutions need to be a little more in-depth and the language clearer. She stated that she attends the Fire Advisory Board (FAB) meetings. She believes the members of the FAB should be engaged in this process.

Legislator Montgomery stated the resolution that was proposed did not make it clear as to who the EMS Advisory Board would report to, and she would like to know who would appoint to the Board and who would make recommendations. She stated she would like included in the resolution, that the Legislature be provided a calendar of the meetings, minutes of the meetings and who will be appointing the members and include that the Legislature receive a copy of the resume of the appointed members. She explained she would like all of this included in the final resolution to avoid some of the issues the Legislature has run into in the past with different boards.

Chairwoman Nacerino expressed her agreement with the points made by Legislator Montgomery. She stated there needs to be more concise information. She stated also there needs to be Legislative oversight and that wording needs to be included in the resolution.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Table to the August Meeting Approval/ Acknowledge the Putnam County EMS Council as the Putnam County EMS Advisory Board Under NY County Law CNT 223-b. titled EMS Training and Mutual Aid Programs; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

**Item #9 - FYI/ Discussion/ Press Release – June 30, 2021 Hudson River Response and Mutual Aid for The Marine Patrol/Bureau of Emergency Services**

Chairwoman Nacerino listed the documents provided as backup to this agenda item. She stated this agenda item is in response to the June 28, 2021, incident press release. She stated this is not concerning defunding of the Marine Patrol. She stated we are to discuss a safety issue. She stated as part of the rules and procedures the public or any of the Legislators should restrict their comments to the agenda item only. She thanked all in advance for their cooperation and professionalism.

Director of Emergency Management John O'Connor spoke to some research he had conducted regarding past calls for response on the Hudson River. He stated that primarily the Fire Departments are the first agencies to respond to calls related to the Hudson River and if there is ever an incident that requires additional agencies (mutual aid) they are called to respond. He stated Putnam County is currently working to finalize their draft Hudson River Response Plan. He stated there are nine (9) miles of the Hudson River in Putnam County's jurisdiction: 1,600 feet north of the Bear Mountain Bridge and extends north to Breakneck Point, on the boarder of Dutchess County. He stated Orange County is finalizing their draft Hudson River Response Plan also.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested Director of Emergency Management O'Connor to embellish as to how the mutual aid agreement is formulated. She requested confirmation that the mutual aid agreement it is not a written document, but a mutual understanding between agencies.

Director of Emergency Management O'Connor stated that is correct. He stated mutual aid is not restrictive to the river, it applies to every emergency response case.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair spoke to the press release. He explained there were several residents concerned with the lack of response to the incident, because the Sheriff is not present on the Hudson River. He stated the residents wanted reassurance that there would be response to a call on the Hudson River. He repeated that the first response has been the Fire Departments and assistance is called if needed.

Chairwoman Nacerino confirmed this incident took place during the week, which is not a time that the Sheriff's Department would have been on duty on the Hudson River.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair stated his understanding was that there was not a patrol on the Hudson River during the week. He explained unfortunately there was approximately a 40-minute delay in calling 911.

Legislator Sullivan stated he found the press release to be very informative. He stated the press release spoke to the response to this very unfortunate event and it appeared that there were 19 different agencies that responded, which he believed was a massive response.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair spoke to the Hudson River Response Plan and the fact that it is a work in progress, as stated by his Director.. He continued to speak to the different calls and needs for response between the west side and east side of the County.

Legislator Sullivan stated the agencies that responded brought resources the County does not have. He stated he noticed Yorktown brought a dive team to the call, and there was a helicopter.

Chairwoman Nacerino requested confirmation that there has never been a gap in response.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Ken Clair stated there has never been a gap in response.

Chairwoman Nacerino questioned in the creation the Hudson River Response Plan, will there be Intermunicipal Agreements (IMA) between the agencies/counties.

Director of Emergency Management O'Connor stated that is correct. He stated it will be what has been going on between the agencies but will be written down.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the IMA is something that Legislator Montgomery has been requesting.

Legislator Montgomery clarified that she would have thought that an IMA would have been in place prior to defunding the Putnam County's Marine Patrol.

Legislator Sayegh questioned when someone places a 911 call from the Hudson River where does it go.

Commissioner of BES Ken Clair stated it goes to the closest Tower.

Legislator Sullivan stated he discussed that with IT/ GIS Director Tom Lannon who informed him many of the calls go to the Orange County and are sent to the Putnam County 911 Call Center. He spoke to his confidence in the County's Bureau of Emergency Services, their handling of their calls and in the work they are doing in drafting the Hudson River Response Plan. He stated he looks forward to seeing the plan when it is completed.

Chairwoman Nacerino thanked Director O'Connor and Commissioner Clair for their information and the work they are doing.

Legislator Albano stated he is hearing that we are looking to formalize response on the Hudson River by putting it in writing. He stated however in reality, it will document what is currently being done.

Legislator Montgomery stated there was reference made that the Sheriff's Department Marine Patrol was only available on the weekends. She stated however there was always a Sheriff's boat on the water and a Road Patrol Officer in the area. She explained how it use to work the Road Patrol Officer would get the call, access the boat and respond. She stated and that did not exist this time. She stated in reference to what was stated regarding that there was a 40-minute lag time for calling dispatch is something that should that be investigated. She questioned who would investigate it, since the Sheriff's Department was not present. She spoke to the timeline of the memos provided as backup to this item. She stated she contacted the Commander of the Coast Guard when the County's Marine Unit was defunded. She stated in January of 2021 the response she received from the Coast Guard Commander was one of great concern. She stated in the County Executive's memo dated June 17, 2021, to surrounding County Executives she referenced continuing a discussion regarding the creation of a mutual aid arrangement(s) for the marine unit responses on the Hudson River. She explained said memo also stated the patrols would be in addition to the existing patrols already performed. She stated she wrote a memo requesting evidence of the existing patrols mentioned in the memo of June 17, 2021. She stated the response she received from the County Executive was that members of the BES would be present at this meeting. She questioned if there is something written, specific to the existing patrols which she can have a copy of. She stated based on the discussion this evening, the County does not have any Mutual Aid Agreements. She stated in her opinion, the fact that New York State supplied the boats, they recognized a need. She stated they reimbursed the County for 50%, resulting in a cost of \$45,000 to the County for the Marine Patrol.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion on this matter.



Director of Emergency Management O'Connor stated most of the calls he researched, 29 maritime calls on the river in a five (5) year look back, not a single one appeared to be a specific law enforcement call. He went over the types of calls.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that is pertinent data.

Legislator Sullivan requested confirmation that there is specific training for those who operate the rescue boats.

Director of Emergency Management O'Connor stated that is correct and briefly spoke to the training.

Legislator Sullivan explained he has a boat and is very aware of the education required and the amount of time it takes to get a boat on the water and operating.

Legislator Montgomery stated she is aware that the Sheriff Deputy's received extensive training related to the Marine Patrol. She stated she was remiss in not recognizing Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea, Philipstown Deputy Supervisor John Van Tassel and Philipstown Resident Robert Percacciolo.

Legislator Sullivan stated he too would like to recognize people in the audience who came from the west side of the County: Barbara Scuccimarra, former Legislator, Kevin McConville, and Vinny Tamagna, former Legislator.

Erin Crowley, Mahopac Resident, questioned what experience do any of the Protective Services Committee Members have in emergency services.

Chairwoman Nacerino explained the process of the Legislative Committees. She stated each matter that comes before a committee of the Putnam County Legislature goes through a vetting process by the appropriate Committee. She stated the requester(s) of the different matters brought forward for discussion and or consideration are present and speak to their items. She continued to speak to the process.

Erin Crowley, Mahopac Resident, questioned without having experience in emergency services how can the Committee Members decide on what services are needed.

Chairwoman Nacerino directed Ms. Crowley to speak to the agenda item. She stated as Ms. Crowley continued to speak off topic she would be forced to Recess the meeting.

7:15pm -Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Recess the Meeting; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

7:21pm – Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to call the meeting back to order; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan; All in favor.

Chairwoman Nacerino explained if Ms. Crowley continues to speak off topic she will be forced to adjourn the meeting, preventing the rest of the agenda from being addressed.

Erin Crowley, Mahopac Resident, continued to speak to decisions made during the 2021 budget meetings.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated Ms. Crowley was still off point and needed to sit down.

Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea stated in reference to the Press Release being discussed, a list of responders is important to a point. He stated he believed it was a justification. He stated the problem in Philipstown is with the tourism and the use of the Hudson River, (River) it is a lot more difficult on their volunteers, regardless of mutual aid. He explained the emergency responder volunteers are out all weekend and about every day. He spoke to the different calls involving hikers and incidents down by the River. He stated it is a chronic situation, so any professional help they can get is really needed and appreciated. He stated they really appreciated when the Sheriff's Department had a boat on the River. He stated he also takes issue with the third to last paragraph, in the press release. He read the sentence "It is important for the public to understand that this incident would not have been handled differently as their boat would not have been patrolling the river at the time of this call". He stated no one will ever know. He continued by recognizing a tragedy occurred, a young woman lost her life and that is terrible. He stated to make that assertion in the press release, it cannot be proven, so he does have an issue with that statement. He stated the service of the Sheriff's Department is a paid service. He stated he believes it is important to support the local volunteers with a paid service. He stated he would be remiss if he did not lobby for the reinstatement of the Sheriff's Department boat on the Hudson River, especially since it was such a minor part of the budget.

Philipstown Deputy Supervisor John Van Tassel stated he did submit a letter to the Legislature and the County Executive with questions that are outside of the exact agenda topic, he stated he would appreciate a response. He stated as Commissioner Clair stated there was a huge response to the incident on the Hudson River, as a North Highlands Fire Department volunteer, he was part of the response. He stated he is not representing the North Highlands Fire Department tonight, he is speaking on behalf of the Town of Philipstown. He stated in his opinion the police boat was the one thing missing in the response to the incident on the River. He stated to say that a fire department boat can replace a police department boat is not accurate. He explained their responsibilities may overlap in several areas, their responsibilities are completely different. He stated the fact there is no law enforcement on the River from the Bear Mountain Bridge to Breakneck is scary to him as a parent, as someone who canoes, and as someone who is on the River. He requested that the Sheriff's boat be put back on the River and reinstate their patrol.

Resident Robert Percacciolo provided the background of some of his family members and their dedication to public service. He stated he would like to speak to the topic of mutual aid. He spoke to some research that he did on the Hudson River. He concluded that he did find the majority of accidents in 2020 occurred from May to June, and proposed the County could have the Sheriff's boat available during those months.

Resident Lynne Eckardt stated Legislator Sullivan was remiss in recognizing her as a former elected official of the Town of Southeast. She stated an elected official's first job is to protect our constituents as best as we can. She stated she believes \$45,000 is a very small price to pay for their safety.

Sheriff Langley confirmed that the stats that were shared by Director O'Connor were based on 911 calls only. He stated there could be more incidents that occurred on the River. He requested that Director O'Connor mention what days of the week the incidents he found occurred. He stated at the end of Director O'Connor's reporting of his findings, he stated approximately 50% of the incidents occurred on the weekend.

Director of Emergency Management O'Connor clarified that is not correct, because some of the dates were out of the season.

Philipstown Deputy Supervisor John Van Tassel after getting permission from Chairwoman Nacerino to ask the Sheriff Langley a question, questioned if the Officer who was on the Road Patrol duty, the evening of the incident, was qualified to operate the Sheriff's boat.

Sheriff Langley confirmed that is correct. He expressed his agreement with Supervisor Shea regarding the statement in the press release, no one knows what would have happened if the Sheriff's boat was available to respond.

North Highlands Fire Department, Chief Tobin spoke to the incident. He stated that he is not speaking in any official capacity. He explained he was in his boat on the evening of the incident. He concluded by stating that he is in full support of the having a Sheriff's Boat on the Hudson. He stated in reference to this unfortunate incident, in his opinion, not having a Sheriff's Boat available had no bearing.

Legislator Jonke stated in 2020 he was Chair of this Committee. He stated during the 2021 budget process he made an effort, when the Sheriff tried to find other money to fund the Marine Patrol. He stated the Sheriff was requested to provide data to support the need for the Marine Patrol. He stated the Legislature received nothing. He stated to listen to all of this after the Sheriff never supplied the Legislature with the data, it is upsetting.

Chairwoman Nacerino facilitated further discussion.

Legislator Montgomery stated she recalls receiving a significant amount of data from the Sheriff's Department related to the Marine Patrol. She stated in her opinion there was no extensive research done. She stated she, as a Legislator, took it upon herself to conduct further research and contacted the different agencies that respond on the Hudson River. She stated during the budget review she casted her vote of "no" to defund the Sheriff's Marine Patrol and that is why she voted no on the entire 2021 budget. She stated that the elected officials from Philipstown Supervisor Shea and Deputy Supervisor Van Tassel are present to express their support of the Sheriff's Marine Unit. She stated through further research she conducted she learned the Marine Law Enforcement course provides a high level and very thorough training.

She stated in her opinion there was a need recognized by New York State and that is why they provided the boats.

Louis Liotti, Philipstown Resident requested a copy of the documentation that Legislator Montgomery received from the Coast Guard representative who expressed concern with the Sheriff's Marine Unit not being on the Hudson River.

Legislator Montgomery provided Mr. Liotti with a copy.

Louis Liotti, Philipstown Resident stated the Sheriff's Marine Unit was a part-time patrol. He stated perhaps we could look at full-time 24/7 coverage. He stated the incident that we are discussing this evening was tragic. He continued to speak to the matter and concluded with his recommendation that a study should be done regarding a fulltime Marine Division, if that is the consensus of those who are interested and concerned about the safety of the people of Putnam County and those that use the Hudson River.

Sheriff Langley stated in reference to the statement that Legislator Jonke made that the Sheriff's Department did not provide documents: there was documentation provided. He provided a timeline of action that was taken during the 2021 Budget process and still the \$45,000 was defunded for the Marine Patrol in the 2021 Budget. He continued to speak to this matter.

Legislator Jonke stated these comments are misleading. He stated no one went to bat on behalf of the Sheriff's Department more than he did, during the 2021 Budget process. He stated a request for incident reports was made, in order to support the request to move money, nothing was received.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this matter can be addressed during the 2022 Budget Process. She stated in terms of the agenda item this evening, the discussion is going off topic.

Legislator Montgomery stated the money could be reinstated now. She stated funding has been reinstated for other purposes during the year.

Chairwoman Nacerino thanked everyone for their time and input on this matter.

#### **Item #10 - FYI/ Budgetary Amendment (21A070)/ NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal Funds to Replace Sheriff's Department Drone/ Sheriff Robert Langley**

Sheriff Langley stated the Drone was purchased through grant funding secured, by then Senator Murphy. He stated all the requirements to use the Drone by the Sheriff's Department were carried out. He stated unfortunately the model had a defect, which caused it to spiral, and it was damaged.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if this is an even swap out financially to replace the Drone.

Sheriff Langley stated there will be zero fiscal impact to the taxpayers.

Legislator Sayegh questioned what is the Drone used for.

Sheriff Langley stated accident reconstruction, secure a search warrant, and search for people, etc.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated Drones are very valuable state of the art tools.

Legislator Albano stated he totally agrees that it is a very valuable tool.

**Item#11 - Other Business**

Chairwoman Nacerino made a statement regarding the need for the rules of the Chairperson of the Legislature's Committees to be followed. She stated that is how the Putnam County Legislature will proceed.

**Item #12- Adjournment**

There being no further business at 7:01pm Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Sullivan. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.