# AUDIT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN ROOM #318 OF THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Members: Chairman Gouldman, Legislators Castellano & Sayegh

Monday 5:30pm November 25, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chairman Gouldman who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislator Castellano, Legislator Sayegh, and Chairman Gouldman were present.

#### Item #3 - Approval of Minutes - October 28, 2019

The minutes were approved as submitted.

#### Item #4 - Correspondence/County Auditor

- a. Sales Tax Report Duly Noted
- **b. Board In Revenue Report** Duly Noted
- c. OTB Report Duly Noted
- d. Transfer/Revenue Report Duly Noted
- e. Contingency/Sub-Contingency Report Duly Noted

#### Item #5 - Correspondence/ Commissioner of Finance

- a. Overtime/Temporary Report Duly Noted
- b. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A074/ Finance/ Closeout Completed Fair Street Water Improvement Capital Project (Also reviewed in Physical)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

c. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19T075/ Finance/ Vacancy Control Factor June-October 2019

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

d. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A076/ Veterans Affairs/ Funding for Veterans Peer to Peer Support Program from NYS Office of Mental Health (Also reviewed in Rules)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

e. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A077/ Sheriff's Dept./ Overtime Expenses Reimbursed per Contract between Sheriff's Dept. and DEA Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 19A077; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

f. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A080/ District Attorney/ Account for SAM Grant Procured for Technology Upgrades & Purchase of Equipment (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

g. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A081/ Health Dept./ Cover Costs Associated with State Increase in Rate Schools Charge per Student & Higher than Anticipated Enrollment in Putnam County's Care at Private Institutions 3 to 5 Program

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

h. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A082/ Office of Senior Resources/ Account for SAM Grant Procured for Carmel Friendship Center

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

 i. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 19A083/ Sheriff's Dept./ Use Federal Seized Asset Proceeds to Purchase Forensic Enforcement Software & Establish User Account (Letter of Necessity Attached)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 19A083; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T331/ Emergency Services/ Motorola Technical Support for October & November 2019 (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 19T331; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

### Item #7 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T333/ Office for Senior Resources/ Adjust Unmet Needs Grant to Proper Lines

Legislator Castellano requested clarification on the Unmet Needs Grant.

Chief Deputy Commissioner of Finance Anita Gilbert stated it is a grant secured by the Office for Senior Resources that will partly go into the 2019 budget and the remainder will go to the 2020 budget. She stated reallocating the funds ensures that the Putnam County budget matches the New York State budget.

Director of the Office for Senior Resources Michael Cunningham stated the Unmet Needs Grant is funding received for the time period of April 2019-March 2020. He stated in years past, the Office for Senior Resources identified some unmet needs in the area, for example family care aides. He stated New York State allocated \$15 million total for Unmet Needs in this fiscal year and Putnam County received one of the largest grants of \$650,000. He stated vehicles were planned to be purchased, however vehicles will now be leased instead and this transfer allocates the funding properly.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

### Item #8 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T340/ County Attorney/ Judgements & Claims (Also reviewed in Rules)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

#### Item #9 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T344/ Board of Elections/ Overtime for 2019 General Election

Legislator Sayegh questioned if this overtime was due to the early voting requirement.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated yes, it is.

Legislator Castellano stated he would be interested to see the impact of early voting on voter turnout as a whole.

Legislator Sayegh agreed with Legislator Castellano and stated she would like to compare any voter turnout increase to the cost of early voting.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated the Board of Elections Commissioners would be able to provide the numbers.

Eric Gross, reporter, stated it was reported that there were 1,700 early voters.

Legislator Castellano questioned if the early voters were in addition to who would have voted on Election Day.

Legislator Albano stated statistics showed that there was not much of an overall increase.

Legislator Castellano stated he believes many people were happy to have the opportunity, however it is very costly. He stated absentee ballots are available and are cheaper than early voting.

Legislator Nacerino stated she does not believe this election year is indicative of the true numbers. She stated next year is a Presidential Election year and may provide a better representation of the impact of early voting.

Legislator Castellano stated the voter turnout would need to be measured against the election two (2) years ago when we had this type of election.

Legislator Sullivan agreed with Legislator Castellano. He stated early voting cost the County about \$330,000, which is about \$195 per person for the 1,700 that voted early. He stated it would be interesting to know if the people who took advantage of the early voting opportunity would not have otherwise voted.

Chairman Gouldman stated unfortunately early voting is a State mandate.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 19T344; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

### Item #10 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T347/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase Locking Metal Cabinet and Shed (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

## Item #11 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T348/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase 10 New Holsters for New Officers and to Replace Old Ones (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

## Item #12 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T349/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase Bullet Proof Vests, Rifles, & Spare Magazines (Also reviewed in Protective)

Legislator Nacerino stated she would like to see expenditures such as this incorporated into the budget as they can be predicted. She stated taking funds from the food line is concerning.

Chairman Gouldman agreed and stated hopefully the budget was planned appropriately for 2020.

Legislator Sullivan agreed with Legislator Nacerino. He stated pulling money from other lines for purchases like this makes him question their budgeting process and whether the numbers in each line were really warranted or valid.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 19T349; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

## Item #13 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T352/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase Laptop Cases & Wireless Keyboards and Mouse Sets (Also reviewed in Protective)

Legislator Sayegh questioned if this type of purchase goes through the IT/GIS Department.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated they will get approval from IT/GIS before the items are purchased. She stated purchases from budget lines for Software & Accessories and Computers require approval from IT/GIS.

Legislator Castellano stated he is sure these items are necessary; however money is being pulled from many lines to make the purchase. He stated he would like to look at how money is being moved around closer next year.

Legislator Nacerino stated moving money between lines for these purchases is not transparent and it begs the question of whether these allocations were overinflated. She stated to have this much money left over at the end of the year and to comingle it for other expenses is not the right way for a County government to be doing business for the taxpayers, in her opinion. She stated when the budget is posted it is for the taxpayers to see where the allocations are. She stated when transfers are made those allocations are no longer accurate. She stated it is very concerning to her.

Legislator Sullivan stated the timing raises some questions. He stated the Sheriff's Department is requesting to purchase a lot of items and it almost looks like they are using up their budget lines to ensure they spend the money so they do not lose it, which is upsetting. He stated this is not a good way to run any department.

Legislator Sayegh agreed with Legislator Nacerino's comments pertaining to the transparency of the budget. She questioned what is the point of presenting a budget, if at the end of the year it does not mean anything. She stated understandably, there are budget items in all departments that sometimes require a transfer throughout the year. She stated however, this seems excessive and as though they are shaking out the couch cushions. She stated this is not transparent to the taxpayer.

Legislator Nacerino acknowledged that departments may need to transfer funds to cover purchases, however predictable expenditures such as computer equipment or furniture is something that should be accounted for and incorporated into the budget. She stated to comingle and spend down budget lines is really not something any Legislator should support as stewards of taxpayer dollars.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 19T352; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

#### Item #14 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T354/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase Furniture for New Office (Also reviewed in Protective)

Legislator Castellano stated these purchases should have been accounted for in the 2020 budget rather than moving money now, in the month of December, to cover the cost.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve 19T354; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

## Item #15 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T355/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase Identification Decals & Signs for Doors & Gates throughout Corrections (Also reviewed in Protective)

Legislator Castellano reiterated the comments he made earlier; these purchases should have been accounted for in the 2020 budget.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

## Item #16 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T361/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase 5 Computer Monitors and 3 External DVD-RW Writers (Also reviewed in Protective)

Legislator Sayegh stated there is a pattern here and this is excessive. She stated this fund transfer request is to move funds from a Food budget line and a Books & Supplements budget line to fund the purchase of computer equipment. She stated these purchases could have been predicted and budgeted for 2019 or saved to be allocated in the 2020 budget.

Legislator Nacerino stated she stands by her rationale. She stated it begs the question why these purchases could not have been put into the 2020 budget.

Chairman Gouldman stated these fund transfers and budgetary amendments were also reviewed at the Protective Services Committee meeting.

Legislator Nacerino stated the whole Legislature will vote on these items at the Full Legislative Meeting. She stated these purchases could be tabled until 2020 as they are not time of the essence expenditures.

Legislator Albano stated the budget lines that are being used to fund these purchases should be lowered moving forward. He stated these purchases need to be planned for; utilizing these lines shows that there is excess money in them.

Legislator Sullivan agreed with Legislator Nacerino that some of these items should be tabled until 2020. He stated sending these requests at the end of the year looks like they are trying to spend down the money in the budget lines.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if these concerns were raised when this item was reviewed at the Protective Services Committee Meeting.

Legislator Sullivan stated yes, and they are being brought up again tonight. He stated he would be in favor of holding off on some of these purchases so they are made with the 2020 budget.

Legislator Nacerino stated the final decision will be made at the Full Legislative Meeting and each Legislator will have the opportunity to vote accordingly.

Legislator Albano stated moving funds between lines within the same department does not affect the overall budget, but some of these items may be "wish list" items and may not be necessary at this time. He stated if these purchases were not planned on they could not have been that important. He stated in an effort to keep a tight budget, some of these purchases may not be possible.

Legislator Sayegh stated earlier in the year some computer equipment purchases were made as a result of the County switching over to Microsoft 10. She questioned if these purchases are necessary due to that change.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated these purchases are not related to the Microsoft 10 upgrade.

Lieutenant James Greenough stated he can address some of the concerns mentioned. He stated the Food budget line is needed during the year for food purchases, however when it became obvious that there were additional funds in that line they used it to transfer. He stated Fund Transfer 19T349, item #12, was necessary to purchase replacement vests as well as new vests for eight (8) additional corrections officers who

were hired. He stated they did not plan to hire these officers during this year. He stated this purchase used up that budget line. He stated the computer equipment was included in the purchase of items with grant money, but by the time the process went through the prices changed.

Chairman Gouldman questioned if this item should be tabled back to the Protective Services Committee.

Legislator Castellano stated he believes this item should be passed through to the Full Legislative Meeting.

Chairman Gouldman stated this item is for signature and will therefore not go to the Full Legislative Meeting.

Legislator Sayegh stated at this point she would be comfortable approving a signature of this item because the Legislators' points have been made known.

Legislator Castellano agreed.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 19T361; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

## Item #17 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T365/ Sheriff's Dept./ Cover Overages in Overtime, Canine Stipend, & Temporary Budget Line (Also reviewed in Protective & Personnel)

Legislator Castellano stated this fund transfer is for overtime and will go to the Full Legislative Meeting for approval and he believes discussion will continue there. He stated he would be comfortable moving this fund transfer forward.

Legislator Sayegh agreed.

Legislator Sullivan stated fund transfers for overtime are for money that has already been spent.

Chairman Gouldman stated the fund transfer stated that this amount is to cover overtime for the remaining 2019 budget year.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if there will be additional overtime in the coming month.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated the overtime report shows the negative accounts in the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Gouldman stated he believes it was discussed at the Protective Services Committee Meeting that this should be the total amount for the rest of the year.

Legislator Nacerino stated it was also discussed at the Protective Services Committee Meeting that these expenditures should be pre-authorized rather than approved after the fact.

Chairman Gouldman stated that is correct. He stated this fund transfer was approved out of both the Protective Services Committee and Personnel Committee.

Legislator Nacerino agreed that this should be passed to the Full Legislative Meeting where the whole Legislature will have an opportunity to vote on it.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated for this account, the \$20,000 is to cover overtime through the end of the year as right now the account has a negative balance of \$5,500.

Legislator Castellano stated there was an incident that took place this past weekend that will surely impact overtime.

Legislator Nacerino stated unforeseen circumstances are understandable. She stated there are expenses that can be planned for as well.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

## Item #18 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T367/ Sheriff's Dept./ Corrections/ Purchase Uniform Accessories and 4 Sets of Uniforms for Promotion of 2 New Sergeants, 1 Lieutenant, and 1 Captain (Also reviewed in Protective)

Legislator Sullivan stated this fund transfer states the uniforms are for two (2) new sergeants, and as far as he is aware the Legislature has not yet passed the position of the second sergeant.

Lieutenant Greenough stated the sergeant uniforms are for one (1) position that has been approved and the other is a Lieutenant moving to Captain and a sergeant moving to Lieutenant so one (1) is a new position and one (1) is a replacement.

Legislator Jonke stated he does not believe the Legislature was made aware of the Lieutenant becoming a Captain.

Lieutenant Greenough stated it will be effective January 1st.

Legislator Jonke stated the Legislature should have been notified prior to receiving these requests. He stated there is a lot to be desired in terms of communication; he learned the Undersheriff was retiring by reading about it in the newspaper. He questioned who the Lieutenant is that is becoming Captain.

Lieutenant Greenough stated the appointments have not yet been made. He stated they were hoping to order the uniforms because there is a two (2) month lag.

Legislator Jonke stated since the appointments aren't made until 2020, this purchase should be made with the 2020 budget.

Lieutenant Greenough stated the intention of ordering in December was to have the uniforms come in as close to January as possible.

Legislator Sayegh stated she believes this should be held off because it is unknown who will be in the position. She stated although they will be needed, it seems premature to place the order for positions that have not yet been approved.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to recommit Fund Transfer 19T367 back to the Protective Services Committee; Seconded by Chairman Gouldman. All in favor.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there are three (3) uniforms needed in total, counting the Sergeant in the Youth Bureau.

Lieutenant Greenough stated this is for Corrections only.

Item #19 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T368/ Sheriff's Dept./ Purchase New Fridge & Freezer for Evidence Room/ Mini Fridge for Crime Scene Van for DNA Preservation/ Various Computer Equipment & ID Card Printer for CSU (Crime Scene Unit)/ Replace CSU Camera Speedlight, Flash, Trail Camera, and Camera for In-Field Interviews/ Work Table & Shelving for Property Evidence Room

Legislator Castellano stated the Committee just reviewed fund transfer 19T352 in item #13 that moved funds into the Software Accessories line, and this fund transfer is taking funds from the Software Accessories line to distribute elsewhere.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated fund transfer 19T352 was for Corrections and fund transfer 19T368 is for BCI (Bureau of Criminal Investigation), therefore although the title of the budget lines are the same, they are for different units within the Sheriff's Department.

Legislator Castellano stated he does not believe a conversation was had regarding these items. He stated he believes this item should be recommitted to Protective Services, as the last one was.

Legislator Jonke stated the November 19, 2019 Protective Services Meeting ran long and because fund transfers 19T367 and 19T368 were on that agenda as an FYI, they were unfortunately not given due consideration. He stated if the Committee believes they should be sent back to Protective Services for further consideration, he would support that.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to recommit Fund Transfer 19T368 to the Protective Services Committee; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

### Item #20 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T369/ Health Dept./ El/Preschool Leased Transportation/ Increase in Students being Transported/ State Increased 2019 Rate per Child

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

### Item #21 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T370/ Health Dept./ Motor Vehicles for Preschool Transportation

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

### Item #22 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 19T379/ Sheriff's Dept./ Road Patrol Overtime (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Gouldman questioned if this overtime represents money that has already been spent, or if it is an anticipation through the end of the year.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated Road Patrol has a negative account balance of -\$234,173 and this fund transfer will offset that negative balance.

Legislator Sullivan questioned if this fund transfer covers any future overtime. He stated it is his understanding that some of these requests are for overtime that has already been paid, while others are for future overtime.

Legislator Gouldman questioned in the case where the money has already been spent, if the Legislature has to approve the fund transfer request.

Legislative Counsel Robert Firriolo stated the Legislature does not have to approve the fund transfer. He stated the overtime will still be paid to the employee, but whether the Legislature approves of it or not is up to the Legislature.

Legislator Jonke stated there is a negative balance and there are about three (3) pay periods left in the year. He stated there was a discussion at the Protective Services Committee Meeting with the Sheriff about controlling the spending of overtime.

Legislator Nacerino stated she voted "no" on this fund transfer in Protective Services on principle. She stated keeping an open and transparent budget speaks to the fiduciary responsibility and integrity of the Legislators. She stated to have something of this magnitude comingling funds from all different lines for road patrol overtime begs the question if the overtime could have been better planned for. She stated the lines should

be more realistic rather than overinflated to be moved later for another purpose. She stated she is adamantly opposed to how this business is being conducted and although the County is responsible for work that has been done, the Legislature does not have to approve such a transfer based on their fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers.

Chairman Gouldman questioned what would happen if the Legislature did not approve the fund transfer.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated the negative balance in the account would be covered with funds from contingency in a year end journal entry. She stated the books cannot be closed with such a large deficit.

Legislator Sayegh stated the only purpose of not passing this would be on principle since it will be covered either way.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert stated the overtime has already been paid to the employees.

Legislator Nacerino stated the purpose speaks to the Legislature's integrity. She stated the question is if this is how the Legislature wants to manage funds.

Legislator Sullivan agreed with Legislator Nacerino. He stated this is about the integrity of the Legislature's role. He stated once a budget line has been exhausted, the department should not continue to spend; they should come before the Legislature and present their request for additional money. He stated this puts the Legislature in a bad position because the money has been spent already. He stated he wants to make sure this does not happen next year. He stated it is important that the department comes to the Legislature before spending the funds. He stated he agrees with voting against this on principle, knowing the budget will be covered either way.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Gilbert questioned if departments have been told that the Legislature would like to know before money is spent.

Legislator Nacerino stated it is in the Putnam County Charter.

Legislator Sullivan stated it was brought up at the Protective Services Committee Meeting, but can be followed up on as well.

Legislator Jonke stated at the Protective Services Meeting he read the paragraph in the County Charter that states budget lines should not be exceeded. He stated the Legislature has an obligation to follow the Charter. He stated this spending is a runaway train.

Legislator Sayegh stated she is not in favor of transferring money at the end of the year like this; it is not transparent. She stated this does the taxpayer a disservice. She stated she is not in favor of this based on principle. She stated the Legislature

represents the taxpayers and it is not right that at the end of the year the budget changes so extremely.

Legislator Castellano stated this is a large sum of money, \$121,115.11. He stated if the Legislature does not pass this, that amount will come out of contingency and the leftover money in these lines will go back into contingency at the end of the year. He stated although he does not like the transfer in front of him, he believes it should be moved to the Full Legislative Meeting to continue this conversation.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. By poll vote: 2 Ayes and 1 Nay – Legislator Sayegh.

#### Item #23 - FYI/ County's Deposit & Investment Policies - Duly Noted

#### Item #24 - Other Business

a. Approval/ Authorization/ Legislators to Attend March 2020 National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to waive the rules and accept the other business; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Chairman Gouldman stated the NACo Conference is a great educational experience. He stated it is currently unknown how many Legislators will be attending, but he encouraged his colleagues to go if they are able.

Legislator Nacerino stated this is an expensive conference and she believed the number of Legislators who could attend at once was limited to one (1) representative who would report back to the Legislature. She questioned if anything was officially done to limit the number.

Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated he does not believe there was a resolution limiting the number of attendees.

Legislative Clerk Diane Schonfeld stated it was discussed and decided that one (1) or two (2) would go; and one (1) Legislator ended up attending last year. She stated there is one (1) Legislator who requested to attend this conference.

Chairman Gouldman stated he went last year and got a lot out of it; he would like to go again if possible.

Legislator Albano stated a lot of information is shared at these conferences and he is in favor of having a couple Legislators attend.

Chairman Gouldman stated he would encourage everyone to go.

Legislator Nacerino suggested having an allocation of conferences for each Legislator, because when the cost of each conference is added to the final salary of the Legislators it becomes costly to the taxpayers.

Legislator Sullivan stated this seems like a very worthwhile conference. He stated if more than one (1) or two (2) Legislators would like to attend, it should be discussed. He stated if a Legislator is interested in taking their time to attend a conference, the Legislature should find a way for that to happen without making it a boondoggle.

Chairman Gouldman stated at these conferences, Legislators have the opportunity to speak with officials throughout the Nation.

Legislator Sayegh stated these conferences are very beneficial and something is learned each time. She stated she attended the Legislative Conference at the White House this year and it was very informative. She stated she believed it was important for her to go and not to blow her own horn, but she paid her own way. She stated she sees no reason why if a Legislator wants to go and they pay their own bill, why they would not be able to. She stated this would benefit the taxpayer.

Legislator Nacerino stated she has no opposition to Legislators attending.

Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated the draft resolution has a blank where the number of attendees should be. He stated this is being brought up now because there is particular difficulty booking this conference later on in terms to getting into the necessary hotel. He stated the Committee may want to consider putting in a placeholder number so reservations can be made. He stated it can be sent to the Full Legislative Meeting without a number, but it will need to be filled in there is that is the case.

Legislator Castellano questioned if there is a cancellation policy.

Administrative Assistant Beth Green stated it is \$75.00 per cancellation.

Chairman Gouldman stated last year, he decided to attend the conference closer to the date and he was in a hotel that was far away. He stated traveling back and forth was costly and he did not submit reimbursement.

Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated that is why this resolution is being considered at this time.

Legislator Nacerino stated to be fair the resolution should be moved with approval for all nine (9) Legislators. She stated all Legislators should have an equal opportunity to attend.

Legislator Castellano guestioned if there is enough money for all nine (9) to go.

County Auditor Michele Alfano-Sharkey stated there is \$14,625 in the 2020 budget for conferences.

Legislator Castellano clarified that all conferences come out of that line.

County Auditor Alfano-Sharkey stated that is correct.

Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated a transfer would be required if all nine (9) Legislators attend.

Legislator Sayegh suggested authorizing four (4) Legislators to go.

Legislator Nacerino stated allowing less than nine (9) Legislators would be unjust.

Legislator Sullivan stated if there is not enough money in the line, he suggested charging each Legislator a prorated amount to avoid having to transfer money.

Legislator Addonizio stated the cost is \$1,985 per person. She stated no one would be able to go to other conferences if all the money is spent now.

Legislative Counsel Firriolo stated the resolution can be approved with nine (9) Legislators now and amended at the Full Legislative Meeting if there are Legislators who are not going to go.

Chairman Gouldman made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution authorizing up to nine (9) Legislators to attend the NACo Conference; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

#### Item #25 - Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:42 p.m. Chairman Gouldman made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Beth Green.