

Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board

PUTNAM TOWN BOARD
JUNE 9, 2016
7P.M. PUTNAM TOWN HALL

The meeting opened with the auditing of bills, the Supervisor's monthly report and the Town Clerk's monthly report.

7:00 Meeting called to order

Councilman Kevin Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present:	Supervisor	John LaPointe
	Councilwoman	Cathie Burke
	Councilwoman	Shirley Randall
	Councilman	Greg Harris
	Councilman	Kevin Hart

Others present: Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Town Clerk, P.O Box 14), Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent, Treadway Lane) Cee McKenzie (BAR Chair, 526 Gull Bay Road), Bob Rudt (Planning Board, 526 Gull Bay Road) Bill Brown (Assistant Fire Chief of the Putnam Vol. Fire Dept., 17 Charter Brook Lane), Charles Bain Sr. (Resident, Bain Lane), Wayne Busby (Resident, 11 Charter Brook Lane) Bert Windle (Resident, 5209 Sagamore Road) Eileen Greeley (Town Historian, 100 Gull Bay Road)

Resolution #61

Accept the minutes of May 12, 2016 regular meeting

On motion of Councilwoman Shirley Randall, seconded by Councilwoman Cathie Burke; Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #62

Accept Supervisor's monthly report for May 2016

On motion of Councilman Kevin Hart, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris; Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #63

Accept Town Clerk's report for May 2016

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Cathie Burke; Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #64

Pay bills as audited

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart; Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolved, the bills on the following are paid as audited.

General Fund	#154-186	\$ 14,954.12
Highway Fund	#78-87	\$ 10,918.91

Correspondence 7:05 (letter read aloud by Cee McKenzie)

June 9, 2016

Putnam Town Board Members

The Board of Assessment review for 2016 met on Tuesday, May 24th for the review of grievances. There were 25 grievances received, and 1 assessor stipulation.

While the Board granted reductions of \$770,600 of Total Assessed Value, the original grievances requested a reduction of \$5,279,470. The actual reductions represent 0.27% of the Total Taxable Town Tentative Assessed Value of \$286,306,250 as reported on the 2016 Tentative Assessment Roll.

Cee McKenzie
Chair 2016 Board of Assessment Review.

Cc: BAR files

(Original available for viewing at the Putnam Town Hall)

Courtesy of the floor 7:07pm (4 minute time limit)

Bill Brown (Assistant Fire Chief of the Putnam Volunteer Fire Department or AFC) Mr. Brown reported the Fire Department in the Month of May had 3 calls using 73 man-hours, 2 of the calls were fire, 1 a stand by in Ticonderoga for the Dollar General fire. The other was a controlled burn in a farm field on Route 22. The Department had 4 training events for the month of May totaling 68.5 man-hours. The Fire Department has begun preparing for the annual barbeque. AFC Brown reported all the vehicles are in working order and there were no changes to the condition of the station. AFC Brown also reported on the survey sent out by the Fire Department regarding an increase in funding through a tax increase. 63 responses to the survey said, 49 yes, 14 no, 25 implement in 2 years.

7:11 Bert Windle (Resident, Sagamore Road) Mr. Windle followed up on the report from the BAR Chairwoman saying that it's been 3 years since the reval' was done and the assessor that worked in Putnam still works in Dresden. ORPS (Office of Real Property Services) of New York State Department of Taxation and Finance have concluded there has been no change in the equalization rate in Dresden. He went on to say even though there was a major "shifting" of assessment dollars in Putnam; Dresden has stayed the same for 3 years. Mr. Windle stated that he didn't know there were 25 grievances, however Cee McKenzie had just reported that in her correspondence, showing there is still a "tremendous" amount of work to be done on correcting the reval'. Mr. Windle brought a second issue to the floor. He said he had attended the Planning Board meeting the previous evening at the Putnam Town Hall. He stated he'd

arrived at the meeting a few minutes before 7 and had to stand in the hall, “it was a well-attended meeting, and it was active, very interesting meeting to come home to”. He went on to say there were 32 people at the meeting including the Planning Board members, and that the cars were parked “way down”. Mr. Windle revisited the long range plans for a new Town Hall. Mr. Windle brought a third topic related to Highway. He said on Gull Bay Road someone had dumped a mattress and box spring beside the road, he asked that the items be picked up. Gary Treadway responded it would be picked up Monday (June 13, 2016) by the crew. Mr. Windle’s final topic was related to the Putnam Central School. He stated that the student population over the last few years has been on a steady decline. Projections for the future appear to have diminishing numbers as well. Mr. Windle said that the Town and School should consider future planning and preliminary discussions about combining the School and Town buildings. Supervisor LaPointe responded he’d recently had a mutually friendly discussion with Matthew Boucher the Putnam School Superintendent, and that communications are open with the School. Supervisor LaPointe stressed that the Town and School both have boards that operate independently of one another. Mr. LaPointe and Mr. Windle agreed that the Putnam School Board tries to do a good job. Bob Rudt commented that both the School Board and the Town Board have a common interest “to serve the public”. He stated “separate is not necessarily a good thing if you have a common purpose”. Supervisor LaPointe reiterated that communications are open with the School and he’d recently spoken with Matthew Boucher.

Historian Eileen Greeley presented a display to the meeting. The display included old campaign fliers from past candidates, pictures of past and present elected officials, news clippings and articles related to town officials and campaigns. Mrs. Greeley offered to assemble more displays if anyone had an interest. She also presented a book on the homes of Putnam that had been assembled in 1976 by Washington County Planning Department as a resource survey. The survey committee for Putnam at that time was composed of 7 people; Mrs. Sears, Jane Lape, Rose Blood, Ruth Best, Ethel King, Lorraine Best and William Drew. Mrs. Greeley said she’s updating the book and has been out taking pictures of various homes in Putnam.

7:24 Floor closed

Highway Department Report

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported he attended Highway School, he stated it was worth the time to go as he learned from other highway workers as well as the instruction. HS Treadway went on to report the crew finished ditching and prepping Lake Road, now he’s waiting for Peckhams to come to pave, they’re expected before the 4th of July. The crew began roadside mowing. HS Treadway also brought forward the annual contract with Washington County for roadside mowing on County roads. The contract is for the 10.64 miles of County road in Putnam, for the sum of \$2606.80. The County Road’s mowing can’t be started until June 15 per the contract.

Resolution #65

Authorize Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway to enter roadside mowing contract with Washington County for the sum of \$2606.80

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Cathie Burke; Resolution unanimously adopted.

HS Gary Treadway went on to report the trucks that are up for auction on Auctions International, an online auction house, closed June 8, 2016 at 8pm. The closing bids were \$9400.00 for the F550 and \$2750.00 for the 97. The bids will stand for 5 days. HS Treadway recommends the Town counter offer to obtain maximum return on the trucks. Counter offering does not cost anything.

Resolution #66

Authorize Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway to make a counter offer and accept final bid on the trucks at auction

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Shirley Randall; Resolution unanimously adopted.

Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway mentioned again that white goods pick up will be July 13th and 14th.

Bob Rudt inquired about E-cycling, Supervisor LaPointe responded saying he was still looking into it, he was not sure the town could meet the requirements of the current recyclers that have responded to information requests, also it is not a free service. Supervisor LaPointe said he is still exploring other avenues for E-cycling. Bert Windle asked HS Gary Treadway if he could ask Wal-Mart about E-cycling as sometimes they are willing to help communities in various ways. HS Superintendent said he could check on that. Bob Rudt added Wal-Mart does host various functions like that for summer camps and ball teams.

Planning Board Report

Bob Rudt reported that the Planning Board Meeting on June 8th, 2016 was attended by 32 people. The first item on the agenda was the 2 independent towers on Peterson Road. The original application was for one tower, the applicant modified the application to include two towers. Both towers will be 85' and disguised to look like a pine tree, also referred to as "Franken trees". One tower will service ATT, while the other will service Verizon. Mr. Rudt said the trees will not be visible from the lake. He reported the motion did pass, and that "down the road" there will be service from both providers in Putnam; however service will be spotty due to the outlay of the land in Putnam. The second item on the Planning Board agenda was the subdivision of the Bain property by the Land Conservancy. There is an 80 acre parcel consisting of 30 acres of swamp and 50 acres of dry land. The 30 acres is being cut off by the Land Conservancy and will never be developed. It serves as a connection between the Gull Bay Preserve and the shoreline in Glenburnie. The next issue up before the Planning Board was trailers, as a result of two trailers being moved into Putnam without prior consent from the planning board. One of the trailers, on Glenburnie Road, it is believed, does not meet HUD requirements. The second of the two is in Royal Anchorage, the owner of the second trailer will meet with the planning board in July. Supervisor LaPointe added the Code Enforcement Officer was aware of both sites and has visited both sites. The Glenburnie site owner was informed by the Code Enforcement Officer, William Ball, that an inspection by an engineer would be required, and the trailer must pass fire and safety codes, before an occupancy permit would be issued. It is believed the trailer in question was assembled in 1966. Bob Rudt added the trailer on Glenburnie site was never brought before the Planning Board. Supervisor LaPointe brought up the issue of a trailer ordinance review. Putnam does currently have an ordinance in place, which needs to be reviewed; this will be brought before the Town Board later in the meeting. Bob Rudt brought the last item before the Planning Board at the last meeting, Mr. Vincent Beatty was represented by his contractors to do a rebuild of the Freud property at the end of Link Way, across from Dark Bay. The property was sold last year. Currently the structure on the property is about 25' from the water. The old structure will be demolished and a new structure built. The new house will be 4500 sq. ft. total with 4 bedrooms, it will be moved back 75' from the water with a two car garage, storm water management and new septic system. There will be a public hearing regarding this project next month. Councilman Kevin Hart inquired about the septic for the new home, and where it would be located. Bob Rudt explained it will be behind the house, and that it is a peat moss system which is more compact than the traditional system. Supervisor LaPointe asked if the Fire Department had been consulted about the plans, Mr. Rudt responded that a cement truck had driven in there and the property would be accessible to emergency services. Mr. Windle added a reminder that there is an existing one family structure with a garage

currently on the property. He also speculated that the adjoining land owners may not be aware of the current plans for the property. Councilman Hart asked if the contractor was making application to the Planning Board on behalf of the land owner, Mr. Rudt responded “yes”.

Old Business

Cummings Park

Supervisor LaPointe said he’d received a call from Sharon Cuomo from National Grid who has been in contact with the railroad engineer. Ms. Cuomo said the Town should have a letter from the real estate division of Canadian Pacific by Thursday, June 23, 2016 that will consent to the plan at the park.

Plaque for Riley O’Hara

Supervisor LaPointe contacted the Trophy Den to get a plaque made for Riley O’Hara (Jr. Firefighter who graduated Fire Fighter 1). The plaque will be ready next week. There will be a presentation for Riley at the July meeting.

Town Hall Maintenance and Improvements

Ti Paint will be at the Town Hall on Friday June 10th, 2016 to take measurements of the Clerk’s office, halls, and bathrooms for replacement of existing carpets and tile. Tile will be used as the carpets are difficult to maintain especially during winter months. The porch on the front of the Town Hall has been completed by Wayne Busby’s crew. Board members complimented Mr. Busby on a job well done. Mr. Busby and his crew will replace the deck to the main entrance of the Town Hall in the coming week. Also, Tim teRiele crew is painting the exterior of the Town Hall.

New Business

Trailer Ordinance Review

Supervisor LaPointe confirmed each Board member had a copy of the current ordinance. He also suggested there be a special session for discussion about the ordinance. No date was set for the discussion.

Grievance Day Date Change

Supervisor LaPointe brought this topic to the discussion. The previous assessor worked for two towns creating a conflict. Putnam changed the date for Putnam’s Grievance day from the fourth Tuesday in May to the first Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May, to accommodate the assessor. The new assessor is exclusive to Putnam negating the need for the changed date. A public hearing will be held at the beginning of the next Town Board meeting, July 14th at 7 pm, to hear public comments on repealing local law #1 of 2001, and reverting the date to be in accordance with Section 512 of the Real Property Tax Law which states grievance day will be held on the Fourth Tuesday in May.

Shared Service Agreement for Emergency Assistance

Supervisor LaPointe shared a request from New York State Department of Transportation, which asks if the Town of Putnam would like to enter into a shared service agreement for services and materials that are valued for less than \$10,000. New York State Comptroller rules allow NYSDOT to “trade” services under a simple one page agreement. A SSA (Shared Service Agreement) facilitates actions more quickly, and will ensure that there are no procedural obstacles to sharing resources if and when the need arises. The Putnam Board will receive copies of the agreement to study and will decide at the next meeting if Putnam will enter into the agreement with NYSDOT.

Exemption of Matters of Local Concern from County Planning Board Review Agreement

Supervisor LaPointe introduced this topic explaining, in the past, The Washington County Planning Board has entered into exemption agreements with local planning boards to streamline the referral of local projects to the County under GML 239-I and m. These agreements exempt certain projects deemed to have no inter-municipal impact from referral to the County Planning Board. These agreements are to last three years. The current exemptions have expired. A new exemption agreement, should the board elect to do so, will be needed to enter into the agreement again. Should Putnam enter the agreement, a list of exempt projects approved by the local planning board will be provided to the County Planning Department for record keeping purposes.

Resolution #67

Enter into Agreement with Washington County for Exemption of Matters of Local Concern from County Planning Board Review

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris; Resolution adopted unanimously.

123rd Regiment Civil War Flag

Supervisor LaPointe presented a book to the Town Historian Eileen Greeley titled “123rd Regiment NY Volunteer Infantry Washington County Regiment 1862-1865 Their Story” by Eddie Baldwin Meikle. Supervisor LaPointe also brought to the discussion that a replica of the flag that flew with the 123rd regiment was made and presented to Washington County. The donor would like the flag to be displayed in a case at the County building. The Washington County Board of Supervisors are asking each of the 17 towns if they’d like to donate \$200.00 each to go toward the construction of the case to hold the flag.

Resolution #68

Contribute \$200.00 to Washington County for the purpose of displaying 123rd Regiment Flag

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Cathie Burke; Resolution adopted unanimously.

New Business Revisited

Trailer Ordinance

Bert Windle revisited the trailer ordinance discussion by stating the Code Enforcement Officer Bill Ball had stated at the Planning Board Meeting that he felt as though he was the ‘heavy’ when these issues arose because he’s the guy that has to face the residents. Mr. Windle urged everyone to be sure Mr. Ball was involved in the ordinance review. Supervisor LaPointe assured Mr. Windle that Mr. Ball would be, and is, involved in such discussions. Also, that the Code Enforcement Officer is the “heavy” by the nature of the position.

Old Business Revisited

Planning Board Seat Vacancy

Supervisor LaPointe said he had one letter of interest from Wayne Busby, however there were two others that had verbally expressed interest. The board will review applicants at the next board meeting on July 14th, 2016.

Miscellaneous Business

Curtain Drain at the Gull Bay Town Beach

Councilman Kevin Hart introduced a discussion about the curtain drain at the beach. He brought up that Dave Decker (Program Manager/Lake George Watershed Coalition) was going to get money to complete that section in front of the boat launch. Councilman Hart thought there was money left over from the dredging. Supervisor LaPointe said he’s recently been in contact with Randy Rath (LGA Project

Manager/Geographic Information Systems Specialist) and he'd ask him about tapping into that money to make repairs and complete plans at the beach/boat launch.

8:15 Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board

On motion by Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart;
Meeting closed at 7:54 P.M.

Next Meeting July 14, 2016 at 7 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

John LaPointe_____Supervisor

Greg Harris_____Councilman

Shirley Randall_____Councilwoman

Cathie Burke_____Councilwoman

Kevin Hart_____Councilman