

**Preliminary 2024 Budget Public Hearing
&
Regular Meeting
Of the
Putnam Town Board**

October 12th, 2023, 7PM ~ Putnam Town Hall ~ Zoom

7:00 Meeting Public Hearing Opened

Supervisor Wilson solicited comments from the public.

Resident Bert Windle asked about the Youth Program line, why it had decreased. Supervisor Wilson explained that the decrease was the result of a reduction in boat launch hours the prior budget process, necessary to balance the budget.

Supervisor Wilson again solicited comments from the room or from ZOOM attendees. No comments were heard. Supervisor Wilson asked two additional times for comments, but there were none.

Public Hearing closed 7:02

Regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board opened at 7:02

Councilman Chris Mallon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present:	Supervisor	Darrell Wilson
	Councilman	Christopher Mallon
	Councilman	Larry Shiell
	Councilwoman	Carole Schneider
	Councilman	Charles Bain

Others present: Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Clerk, P.O. Box 14), Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent, Treadway Lane), May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Kayla Bennett (Resident, 526 Liddle-Harris Road), Kay Greenough (Resident, 427 County Route 3), Bert Windle (Resident, 5211 Sagamore Road), Bill Brown (Planning Board Chair, 17 Charter Brook Lane)

Present via ZOOM: John Breitenbach (Town Attorney, 2749 Main Street Crown Point, NY 12928), Nancy Wolf-Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road), Karl Ohly (Resident, 428 County Route 3)

Resolution # 82

Accept the minutes of the September 2023, Regular meeting

On motion of Councilman Charlie Bain, seconded by Councilwoman Carole Schneider; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #83

Accept the Financial reports for the month of September 2023

On motion of Councilman Chris Mallon, seconded by Councilman Larry Shiell; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution # 84

Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of September 2023

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilman Chris Mallon all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution # 85

Accept the Town Justice Report for the month of September 2023

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilman Charlie Bain; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #86

Pay bills as audited

On motion of Councilman Larry Shiell, seconded by Councilman Chris Mallon; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

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

General Fund	# 229-252	\$12,376.62
Highway Fund	# 96-102	\$8,106.38
Black Point Sewer District	#7	\$21,123.14

Correspondence

None

Courtesy of the floor

Bert Windle addressed the Board about a mention in the prior month's minutes of a revaluation of the Town. Mr. Windle felt the last revaluation was poorly executed, which resulted in many questionable assessments and Board of Assessment Review petitions. Mr. Windle closed by stating he is vehemently opposed to a revaluation.

Recreation Supervisor Mary Jane Dedrick thanked Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway for his help and assistance during the summer at the beach and boat launch. Ms. Dedrick also thanked Councilman Charlie Bain, and Town Clerk Darlene Kerr for filling in at the boat launch when there were staffing shortages.

Councilwoman Carole Schneider commented she had ridden around in the construction area the prior weekend. Councilwoman Schneider suggested that the residents on Lake Road should be compensated by CHPE for the intrusive and extensive interruption to their lives as a result of the CHPE project. Councilwoman Schnieder also thanked Highway Superintendent Treadway for his selfless actions when a propane truck turned over on Gull Bay Road and was in flames. "You saved a man's life and should be recognized, you're a good man".

Bert Windle addressed the Board a second time adding to comments made by Leslie Bain at the prior month's meeting about illegal immigrants and who will pay the expense if they're sent to Washington

County. Mr. Windle doesn't support the intake of illegal immigrants in Washington County as stated by Leslie Bain the prior month.

Karl Ohly advised the Board and those attending that his dogs have killed a rabid coyote and racoon in recent days, as a PSA. Dr. Ohly also stated that if any immigrants need to be dropped off in Putnam, his farm will happily take them in as workers. Dr. Ohly stated he noticed there was a farm building applied for with the Putnam Planning Board, and that they were "forced" to go through Site Plan Review. Dr. Ohly asserted that this was an illegal action by the Town Planning Board because the applicants' building is agricultural. The applicants are operating a farm. He stated, "I think this needs to be stopped".

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported the crew has continued to work on Sagamore Road ditching and cutting brush. Sagamore Road will be shimmed before winter then topped next year. The Gradall broke down putting the crew behind. A mechanic will look at the Gradall in the coming week. HS Treadway will try to borrow equipment from another town to finish the work if necessary. Councilwoman Schneider asked about renting equipment. HS Treadway advised it was more expensive to rent than previously anticipated. There are culverts that need to be replaced before winter. During the down time the crew has been preparing the equipment for the winter season.

Planning Board Report (7:25)

Planning Board Chair William Brown reported that the first project presented to the Planning Board was by Joan Austin for a 40' X 60' building on a concrete pad for storage. There will be no electricity or water. A public hearing for the Austin project was waived and the project was approved as presented. The second topic discussed was an unapproved build on Black Point. The APA has sent a communication to Mr. Agree asking for him to contact the APA. The status of that contact is unknown as of the meeting. Work appears to continue despite a stop work order.

Fire Department report

No report this month.

Old Business

The Board continues to work at adopting policies for an Employee Handbook.

Resolution #87

Adopt the General Employment Requirements Policy

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Chris Mallon; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #88

Adopt the Equal Employment Opportunity and Compliance with Federal and State Statues Policy

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Charlie Bain; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #89

Adopt the Full and Part-time Employees defined Policy

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Larry Shiehl; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #90

Adopt the Preliminary Budget for 2024

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Larry Shiehl;

Roll Call

Councilman Christopher Mallon	Yes
Councilwoman Carole Schneider	No /with explanation
Councilman Larry Shiell	Yes
Councilman Charles Bain Sr.	Yes
Supervisor Darrell Wilson	Yes

The Preliminary Budget was adopted by a majority vote.

Councilwoman Schneider explained she does not agree with a Compliance Officer line in the budget and cannot accept the Preliminary Budget on that basis.

New Business

Wild Animal Control Officer- A discussion about a Wild Animal Control Officer replacement when the current officer retires took place. Rusty Moore has submitted a letter of interest for the potential position.

Resolution #91

Submit an offer to Rusty Moore for the Wild Animal Control Officer position

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilman Charlie Bain; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #92

Make an offer to Robert Winn to act as Town Attorney beginning in 2024

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilman Charlie Bain; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #93

Adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Bain; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board adjourned at 7:45

Next meeting is scheduled for November 9th, 2023, at 7PM at the Putnam Town Hall and ZOOM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

Darrell Wilson_____	Supervisor
Christopher Mallon_____	Councilman
Carole Schneider_____	Councilwoman
Larry Shiell_____	Councilman
Charles Bain Sr. _____	Councilman