

Regular Meeting Of the Putnam Town Board

PUTNAM TOWN BOARD
MAY 14TH, 2020
7P.M. PUTNAM TOWN HALL

7:00 Meeting called to order

Councilman Charlie Bain led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Others present via Zoom or Conferencecall.com: Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy 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), May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Joe Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road), Nancy Wolf-Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road), Thomas Bain (Landowner, Charter Brook Lane)

Moment of Silence in honor of Gregory Roy Harris, Councilman, lifelong resident, family man, agriculturalist, friend and neighbor.

At the meeting's opening Supervisor Wilson spoke about Greg's life and his accomplishments both in the community and on a personal level. A moment of silence was called in honor of Greg's life.

Resolution #58

Accept the minutes of the April 9th, 2020 meeting

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

Resolution #59

Accept the Budget Officer's report for the month of April 2020

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

Resolution # 60

Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of April 2020

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

Resolution # 61

Pay bill as audited

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

Resolved, the bills on the following will be paid as audited.

General Fund	# 113-138	\$20,918.09
Highway Fund	# 44-53	\$5,509.62
Black Point Sewer District	# 3	\$19,584.86

Correspondence

None

Highway Report (7:04)

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported that the highway crew has been alternating days with half of the crew working each day in response to “New York on Pause” due to the COVID-19 pandemic. HS Treadway continued that the seasonal mowing has begun, the crew has also been working on preparing the beach and boat launch for the 2020 summer season. The new truck has been delayed due to the COVID-19 crisis; the manufacturer cannot ship the box from Canada to the United States. Tentatively the box will arrive in mid-July. HS Treadway addressed the Board about alternate paving plans because of the uncertainty of the State funding for CHIPS (Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program) funding. Supervisor Wilson stated the Town has approximately \$53,000 in the budget for the Town’s portion of the highway project, adding if projects are scheduled with the paving provider to late, the Town may miss the window to apply for additional funding from the State. HS Treadway commented that \$53,000 would be enough money to pave approximately one half mile. Councilman Shiell asked if it is necessary to pave right now, continuing that the Town would have to borrow money if additional money is spent and the CHIPS funding does not come. Supervisor Wilson agreed with that assessment. Councilman Bain added he thought we should “wait and see”. It was decided to put a hold on paving plans for now. If nothing can be done by the end of the year, the town paving budget funds will roll into next year’s paving budget. HS Treadway will still proceed with the estimate for paving.

Planning Board report

No meeting took place in May.

Board of Assessment Review

The BAR secretary Mary Jane Detrick reported that the BAR had established their new meeting protocol the week prior in preparation of grievance day on May 26, 2020. Ms. Detrick detailed the plans for grievance day stating she and the BAR Chair, Cee McKenzie, will be at the town hall while the other BAR members will join via the internet for discussion. Assessment review packets sent by residents will be scanned and emailed to the BAR members and the Assessor prior to grievance day for members to review.

Fire Department report

Supervisor Wilson reported the final payment of the budgeted monies for 2020 will be paid to the Putnam Volunteer Fire Department. Councilman Shiell reported that the fire department will not hold their chicken barbeque this year due to COVID-19 and social distancing, this is expected to have a deep impact on the fire department as the barbeque is their biggest fund raiser each year. Supervisor Wilson stated that some of their operational funds are acquired through fund raising and there is a possibility that the fire department may need additional help toward the end of the year.

Old business (7:30)

Councilman Shiell asked if the Town’s payroll had moved over to electronic deposits and if so, how much was it going to cost. Supervisor Wilson replied that yes, the Town is moving forward with direct

deposit, the cost will be about \$20 a month. Supervisor Wilson stated he would get more specific information and get back to the board with it.

Councilman Shiell also inquired about the headstones in the Presbyterian Church that needed repair. Supervisor Wilson replied the stones are very fragile, and as of now we have been unable to obtain anyone that is qualified to repair and clean the stones. The initial search for a qualified and willing individual was not successful.

New business (7:33)

Supervisor Wilson reported that he has been invited to join a panel to serve at the County and State level. The panel will contribute ideas regarding “return to work plans” in New York State. The North Country which includes Essex County, has met the metrics to begin stage one of opening, the Capital District which includes Washington County, has not met the metrics at this time.

Mowing Contract with Washington County for 2020 season

Each year the Town enters a contract with Washington County for roadside mowing of county roads in Putnam. The contract terms are as follows; there will be two cuttings, the first taking place between the dates of June 15 and July 14th, the second taking place between August 1 and September 15th. To be mowed are 10.64 centerline miles at \$269.48 per centerline mile for a total of \$2867.48. HS Treadway indicated the Highway Department is prepared to accept the contract.

Resolution #62

Enter into 2020 mowing contract with Washington County

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

Supervisor Wilson advised everyone the free version of Zoom being used for the meeting has a time limit, and limited service. Supervisor Wilson continued saying we will need to upgrade our ability to perform meetings in the new environment via the internet, however that would come with some cost, but the most economical solution would be sought.

Supervisor Wilson asked if there were any parting comments from the participants.

Joe Fisher commented he thought the meeting went well considering it was the first time using the new technology.

Resolution #63

Adjourn the regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board

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

Meeting closed at 7:38

The next regular meeting is June 11th, 2020 at 7 P.M. at Putnam Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

Minutes of the May 14, 2020 meeting.

Darrell Wilson _____ Supervisor

Christopher Mallon _____ Councilman

Larry Shiell _____ Councilman

Charles Bain Sr. _____ Councilman