

# **Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board**

PUTNAM TOWN BOARD  
FEBRUARY 8, 2018  
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**

<b>Members present:</b>	Supervisor	John LaPointe
	Councilman	Darrell Wilson
	Councilman	Kevin Hart
	Councilwoman	Shirley Randall
	Councilman	Greg Harris

**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), Josh Bagnato (Guest, Vice President, Project Development. Transmission Developers Inc. 600 Broadway Albany, NY) Ayokunle Kafi (Guest, Engineer, Transmission Developers Inc.) May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Juliet Cook (Attorney from the office of John Breitenbach) John Breitenbach (Town Attorney), Cynthia Floor, (Resident, 293 Lake Road), Susan Johnson, (Town Justice, 17019 State Route 22), Sherry J. Kuhl (Resident, 7 Darling Hill)

## **Resolution # 40**

### **Accept the minutes of the January 11, 2018 meeting**

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilman Darrell Wilson; all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

## **Resolution # 41**

### **Accept the Supervisor's report for the month of January 2018**

On motion of Councilman Darrell Wilson, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris; all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

**Resolution # 42**

**Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of January 2018**

On motion of Councilman Darrell Wilson, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart; all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

**Resolution # 43**

**Pay bill as audited**

On motion of Councilman Darrell Wilson, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart; all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

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

General Fund	# 15-44	\$14,517.64
Highway Fund	# 7-28	\$14,431.23
Black Point Sewer District	# 1	\$17,415.51
Royal Anchorage Sewer District	# 1	\$3,166.73
Cumming's Park	# 1	\$3,475.77
Meadow Knoll	# 1	\$465.00

**Correspondence** (7:04)

None

**Courtesy of the floor** (7:04)

**Presentation by Josh Bagnato and Ayokunle Kafi of Transmission Developers Inc. (TDI)**

([www.transmissiondevelopers.com](http://www.transmissiondevelopers.com)) ([www.chpexpress.com](http://www.chpexpress.com))

Mr. Bagnato and Mr. Kafi attended the meeting to provide more information to the Board and residents on a proposed buried transmission line. The Champlain Hudson Power Express is a buried cable designed to transmit 1000 megawatts of hydropower from Canada to the New York City area. It is a private line being developed by TDI, based in New York City, and Albany, NY, funded by Black Stone an equity firm in New York City ([www.blackstone.com](http://www.blackstone.com)). The project has been in development for about six years. The project is fully permitted, and runs a buried cable 333 miles from the Canadian border to New York City. A permit level design has been completed; the company is now moving into the next phase, doing more advanced engineering on the project. During this phase of the project, potential problem areas were identified. One of those challenging areas is in the portion of Lake Champlain that runs past Putnam. The new route for the cable is proposed to come ashore in Putnam, to avoid the narrow, shallow section of Lake Champlain that passes Putnam's shoreline. After looking at several routes, the engineers chose an area known as Putnam Station (Near the old Putnam House) on County Route 3 to come ashore, to Lake Road, to Route 22. TDI is seeking town support before applying for the changes in their permits. John Breitenbach the Town Attorney asked what the alternate plan is if the new route is not approved and permitted. Mr. Bagnato replied they would then build on the permitted route and risk the possibility of dredging in the shallow areas in the future, or perhaps find another place to come out of the lake, or make a plan C. Mr. Bagnato also added that no construction would take place in 2018, however 2019 is the projected goal at this time.

Mr. Kafi then spoke introducing himself as one of the engineers on the project. He began by speaking about the contractors involved with the project, that they are world renowned in their fields of expertise. Mr. Kafi went on to say that TDI is confident, as they come through the town; they will preserve the integrity of properties and the areas they will work in. The Key contractor they'll be working with is Kiewit ([www.kiewit.com](http://www.kiewit.com)). They will bury 2 solid 5" cables with a solid core that will carry DC current. The project is expected to stay on the roadsides or under the roads to avoid private properties. The preference is to stay in the shoulder of the roads. A 5 foot trench would be dug to lay the cable and casing,

at the end of each work shift the trench would be covered with steel plating for safety, and prevent anyone or anything from falling in. There will be a manhole opening every 22 hundred feet.

Other contractors contributing to the work will be;

ABB/nkt cables ([www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)) a technology leader in the distribution, transmission and generation of power.

Caldwell Marine International LLC. ([www.caldwellmarine.com](http://www.caldwellmarine.com)), a marine construction contractor specializing in sub-marine construction.

AECOM ([www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)), who will be an engineering consultant during the concept development stage, and also will support the overall construction process.

Cynthia Floor from Lake Road addressed concerns about the vegetation beside the road on Lake Road, more specifically tiger lilies that grow there. She also expressed concern that during construction she would not have an easily accessible route between her home and business locations on Lake Road. Mr. Kafi replied that it is standard practice to replace vegetation that might be disturbed during the construction process. Ms. Floor stated that she needed to have access to her barn a dozen times a day 7 days a week. Mr. Bagnato replied that all of the details haven't been worked out as they're in the planning stages, but they will be working with locals and Town officials to address concerns and needs of residents during construction. Mr. Kafi offered to meet with Ms. Floor and walk the road with her so she can point out her areas of concern. She then asked if they would be using heavy equipment. Mr. Kafi replied "Yes" but, they will only use equipment that meets the weight requirements on the roads they're on. Ms. Floor also asked if they'd be repairing the road after, to which Mr. Kafi replied "yes" the road would be left in the same or better condition than they found it.

Councilman Kevin Hart turned the discussion to long term maintenance that may be necessary where the road surface was cut into, creating seams. He went on to explain the pavement on Lake Road was only a year old. He asked how long TDI would come back to maintain the repairs. Mr. Bagnato replied that issue would be addressed in the agreement paperwork. Councilman Hart also asked who the negotiator is for TDI in terms of negotiating the PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes). Mr. Bagnato replied that would probably be himself, their finance department and an attorney who's an expert in PILOT agreements in New York State. Councilman Harris questioned if TDI is sure they'll be on the road. Mr. Bagnato replied TDI isn't sure because they need to amend their permits, but this is the preferred route. Councilman Harris asked how long it takes to amend the permits. Mr. Bagnato responded later this winter/early spring TDI would put in the applications for the amendments. He also stated TDI is optimistic they'll get the amendments approved.

Supervisor LaPointe joined the discussion saying there is a draft resolution that will be reviewed by the Town attorney, Mr. Breitenbach. There was a brief conversation about, the potential terms of the agreement, and how to meet the needs of TDI and the residents in that agreement.

#### **Highway report** (8:03)

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported that the big equipment, stock pile, and salt are good. HS Treadway raised an issue with a pickup truck that has become a maintenance problem due to age and use. The costs associated with the truck have become unreasonable, and the handicap of always having one truck in the garage has impacted the crew's ability to do their job in a timely manner. HS Treadway has investigated buying opportunities through the State contract. He's determined that the best deal would be a Chevy that's a sister truck to the one purchased in 2017. The new truck would not have a plow or sander, they could be added later. The truck being considered is a bare bones Chevy pickup. The State contract price is \$29,880.

#### **Resolution #44**

##### **Purchase a new pickup truck under State contract**

On motion of Councilman Darrell Wilson, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart; all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

#### **Planning Board report** (8:09)

The planning board meeting has not yet taken place for February 2018. No report given.

**Old business** (8:10)

Dog enumeration has begun, so far the Dog Control Officer has listed 110 dogs. Cynthia Floor asked why the enumeration is being done. Supervisor LaPointe replied it has always been done, but it wasn't done the last few years. The new Dog Control Officer is beginning fresh with the enumeration and it will be ongoing throughout the year. The purpose is to be sure that the dogs being housed in Putnam have a rabies vaccination, because we live in a rabies high risk area. If an individual does not have a license/rabies vaccination they'll be issued a notice, then a citation if the issue isn't corrected.

Supervisor LaPointe gave a reminder that the Town's rabies clinic is scheduled for the morning of Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at the Town Hall. 8 A.M. – 9A.M.

Councilman Harris asked where things stood on the Site Plan Review revision. Attorney Breitenbach replied that he's in the process of reviewing it in its entirety. He feels there are inconsistencies that need to be addressed before it's finalized. Mr. Breitenbach stated he felt it needs further review by the Planning/Town Boards. A brief discussion about forming a committee to finish the revisions on the Site Plan Review took place.

**New business** (8:20)

Cummings Park Grand Opening Supervisor LaPointe stated plans for the grand opening of the park will begin, and perhaps a committee should be formed to finalize the celebration plans. More details to come at a later date.

Councilman Wilson contributed to the topic speaking about the discussion at the prior month's meeting addressing rules and uses at the new park, so that people have an understanding of what's expected of the park users.

**Old business revisited** (8:22)

Councilman Hart reported that he had attended a meeting with the Putnam Volunteer fire department, as discussed at January's meeting. The committee formed with the Fire Department will meet the first Monday of each month at 7P.M. at the fire house. At the initial meeting they discussed tracking the department's expenditures.

Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway reported that the proposed dredging at the Gull Bay Boat Launch is to begin sometime in April and will be finished by the end of April. The method will be long reach excavator from the shore.

**Resolution #45**

**Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board**

On motion of Councilwoman Shirley Randall, seconded by Councilman Darrell Wilson, all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

**Regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board adjourned at 8:35**

Next meeting: March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7 P.M. at the Putnam Town Hall

Respectfully Submitted,  
Darlene Kerr, Putnam Town Clerk

John LaPointe \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor

Darrell Wilson \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman

Kevin Hart \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman

Shirley Randall \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman

Greg Harris

Councilman

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