

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

PUTNAM TOWN BOARD  
OCTOBER 11, 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 by Supervisor John R. LaPointe**

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:** Gary Treadway ( Highway Superintendent, Treadway Lane), Bob Rudt (Planning Board, 526 Gull Bay Road), May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Bert Windle ( LCP Chair, Resident, 5211 Sagamore Road), Wayne Busby (Planning Board, 11 Charter Brook Lane), Charlie Bain (Boat launch attendant, resident 17 Bain Lane), Bonnie Maiolo (Resident, 211 County Route 3), Galen Seerup (Planning Board Chair, 17360 State Route 22), Margaret Bolon (Resident, 4382 Link Way), Brian Bolon (Resident, 4382 Link Way), Leslie L. Bain (Resident, 371 Peterson Road)

## **Opening of sealed bids for the firehouse roof** (7:03)

A total of three bids were opened.

Bid #1 submitted by Wayne Busby \$19,305

Bid #2 submitted by CB Enterprises \$17,747

Bid #3 submitted by C Granger Construction \$17,500

Councilwoman Shirley Randall asked if the bidders were insured. Supervisor LaPointe agreed to contact the bidders and ask for a certificate of insurance before the award. Bert Windle asked about the specifications of the bids. Mr. Windle stated the bids were not specific enough to know what work and materials were included in the bids. Supervisor LaPointe replied insurances and other items will be reviewed and discussed before the board accepts a bid.

## **September meeting minutes correction**

Supervisor LaPointe requested the correction of an insurance representative. The name in the minutes was incorrectly reported as Ryan Custer, the correct name of the representative is Brian Custer.

**Resolution # 90**

**Accept the minutes of the September 10, 2018 meeting, with correction**

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

**Resolution # 91**

**Accept the Supervisor’s report for the month of September, 2018**

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

**Resolution # 92**

**Accept the Town Clerk’s report for the month of September, 2018**

On motion of Councilman Kevin Hart, seconded by Councilwoman Shirley Randall; all in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

**Resolution # 93**

**Pay bill as audited**

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

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

General Fund	# 301-340	\$18,405.94
Highway Fund	# 110-122	\$18,772.91
Black Point Sewer District	# 10-12	\$18,293.96
Royal Anchorage Sewer District	# 4	\$11,290.64

**Correspondence** (7:13)

**Bob Rude** at the September meeting inquired as to whether or not properties that have had improvements or new construction have been re-assessed, given the poor communications of the prior Code Enforcement Officer with the new Code Enforcement Officer. The Town Clerk sought information from the current Sole Assessor William McCarty and received the following response via Email as read by Supervisor LaPointe:

I do not keep a list of new construction assessments; however, I can assure that I have made every attempt to keep up with new construction.

I get the info from planning board minutes which usually involves most good sized projects.

I also travel around town to view anything that might be under construction that either didn't go before the planning or they are just building. I have done the best I can given the situation w/the former code officer.

This year, 2018, I have worked with county code office to get plans that were submitted to them for permits, which will be a more efficient process.

Will be doing my field work soon, Oct., to gather field data, pics, etc. for the 2019 roll.

Bill

**Courtesy of the floor** (7:21)

**Margaret Bolon** addressed the Board concerning a portion of private road she’s like to have the Town adopt. The current road belongs to the Land Conservancy. Supervisor LaPointe advised Mrs. Bolon that the Town generally does not adopt private roads and hasn’t in many decades, however to be considered

the road would have to be brought up to Town specs, at the resident's cost, for roadways. Preparation would also include permission from all the land owners to give a 50 foot right of way to the Town, on the portion of road proposed. Mr. Bolon read a statement regarding that portion of the road. (A copy was not provided to the Clerk, therefore is not included). Councilman Kevin Hart expressed the possible difficulties in getting a consensus of all of the land owners. Councilman Harris advised contacting the Town attorney because the Town hasn't approved anything like this in recent history.

Bert Windle addressed the Board next stating he had three issues he was asked to bring forward for the LCP (Lake Communities of Putnam). The first involves a piece of property on Sagamore Road. He explained about a year ago someone clear cut a lot on Sagamore Road, left behind was the brush debris and a track hoe. Mr. Windle went on to say the machine has been sitting there for a year and residents are asking when it will be moved. Mr. Windle provided a parcel map marked with the lot in question. (Attached). Galen Seerup joined saying the Lake George Park Commission had an enforcement issue at that property. The owner cleared the property without permission and was fined, the fines were paid. Mr. Windle continued with the second issue, he said was brought up at the Planning Board meeting the prior evening. The issue was with a road that was questioned as public or private. The Planning Board made a decision the prior night's meeting to close the road based on maps. Mr. Windle expressed an assertion was made by another resident at the Planning Board meeting that the Town would be held responsible should the road closure have a consequence in an emergency situation. Supervisor LaPointe asked Galen Seerup as the Planning Board Chair to give his understanding. Mr. Seerup explained that there was a subdivision over 30 years ago. At that time the APA (Adirondack Park Agency) accepted the plans for the subdivision. The Planning Board obtained maps through a FOIL (Freedom of information Law) request. The maps do not clearly show the road going through the parcel being discussed, but rather leads up to the parcel and enters but does not go through. The road also did not appear on the abstract or title suggesting the road was not part of the subdivision. The third issue brought to the Board by Mr. Windle was the list of trailers he had provided at the previous board meeting. He inquired what has been done. Supervisor LaPointe replied he has looked at a few of the trailers on the list but was unable to determine where the remaining trailers were located. Mr. Windle offered to pick up Supervisor LaPointe and drive him around; Supervisor LaPointe whimsically replied that he was not getting in Mr. Windle's car. Supervisor LaPointe continued one of the trailers on Route 22 had been dismantled in the past month and was in the process of being removed. Mr. Windle explained the situation on his own property where he was refused permission to build by the APA. He expressed his frustration that he couldn't build yet others were pulling in trailers, some only feet from the water's edge, yet they were not being addressed and seemingly are not taxed as well. Supervisor LaPointe stated he'd look at the list again, and invited Mr. Windle to sit down with him and go over the list.

Leslie Bain spoke addressing Peterson Road. She stated that last time gravel was put on Peterson road the gravel washed away and now what's left are stones. She suggested that next time calcium be used also so it hardens. HS Gary Treadway replied that he was looking into a different material to be used on Peterson road, item 4 that is crushed stone with stone dust in it.

#### **Highway report (7:55)**

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway began his report with Cummings Road. Cummings is being prepared to re-pave in the coming weeks. The road has been ditched, brush cut back and the crew is continuing work on replacing culverts. The date of paving has not been set; it is contingent on Peckhams schedule and availability. 1.67 miles will be paved. HS Treadway reported that pavement has risen in price about \$15 per ton since last year and this job will consume the paving budget. HS Treadway went on to report that the dredging planned at Gull Bay Boat launch is still planned for the near future, he is waiting for the silt curtains to come back from Warren County so they can be used during the dredge. The stone material for the excavator pad will also need to be hauled in. HS Treadway also reported he attended the 4th annual salt summit the prior week. Putnam has been participating since the program began. One of Putnam's trucks is equipped with a GPS unit; also a truck has been equipped with gear that measures salt, and also has road temp sensors. All of the equipment was supplied at no charge and

installed by the crew. A three hundred gallon brine unit has been offered to Putnam to try, it would go on a one ton pick-up. It would be used for roads inside the basin, like Gull Bay and Sagamore. The equipment, a storage tank and brine will be supplied. It is being paid for by a grant through LGPC (Lake George Park Commission) and DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation). Next year a live edge plow will be available to Putnam with matching funds. The plow follows the contours of the road better than the traditional straight blade using sections of plow that are spring loaded. Bert Windle commented he'd like a synopsis of what the Town is doing to help preserve Lake George's water to share with members of the LCP.

### **Planning Board report** (8:08)

Bob Rudt reported 10 items on the agenda. He reported 8 single family dwellings a remodel and a subdivision that composed the agenda. He went on to report that one of the cases is in its 11<sup>th</sup> month of planning, another in its 6<sup>th</sup> month. Surveys and legal opinions, and Park Commission delays are what took the time. Mr. Rudt reiterated a new site plan law is needed, along with a Code Enforcement Officer to enforce the Site Plan Review Law. Galen Seerup (Planning Board Chair) joined saying that the current Code Enforcement Officer only enforces New York State safety and fire codes; he will not enforce the Town's Site Plan regulations. He asserted there is a gap in enforcement. He went on to say the sign regulations are currently not enforceable nor are the trailer/mobile home regulations because they are unique to the town. Mr. Seerup asserted that what's needed is someone to bring violations of Putnam's regulations, that can't be enforced by Jim Buxton (the current Code Enforcement Officer from Washington County), before a judge when individuals are deficient in following local regulations, then the judge could make sure the law is followed. Mr. Seerup followed up saying that working with Mr. Buxton is great, that Mr. Buxton is attentive, "short, sweet and to the point". Mr. Seerup continued, if the Planning Board passes a site plan that integrates storm water management, the Park Commission will not come and check it. Mr. Seerup said he's spoken with the Park Commission, they said the only time they'll inspect is when they receive a complaint that the lake is being polluted. To date the Park Commission has exercised "zero enforcement" on their storm water regulations. Mr. Seerup questions how it will be known if someone is not following the plans, our Code Enforcement doesn't cover storm water regulations and the Park Commission doesn't enforce their regulations. He asserted we need to find a way to make the Park Commission to do their job. Councilman Wilson joined saying he believed that Mr. Buxton enforced all that was approved as part of the building permit application. Mr. Seerup answered if you ask Mr. Buxton he'll say that he only enforces the NYS fire and building code. Councilman Wilson replied saying if the County issues a building permit and that which is referred is permitted he technically is enforcing those aspects of the permit that has been issued by the County. Mr. Seerup stated to his understanding "he doesn't" (Mr. Buxton). The Town Clerk joined saying part of the building permit applications includes an LRCC1. The LRCC1 is a document approved by Mr. Seerup that states all of the local laws/codes and regulations are being satisfied in the plans being submitted for a building permit. The building permit issued is based on those plans and the LRCC1. The plans cannot be changed during construction. Mr. Seerup moved on to another topic. He stated the Town is not following the flood plans that has been adopted a number of years ago. No one informed the Planning Board of this. The DEC Community Outreach Coordinator for Flood Plains has reached out to Mr. Seerup saying we need to be in compliance with our agreement. The coordinator suggested the Planning Board use a specific computer program to be able to identify flood plain, endangered species, archeologist sites, critical environmental area etc. Mr. Seerup stated every time the Planning Board looks at plans they have to do a SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) to consider the impact on the environment equally with social and economic factors. Mr. Seerup requested a computer & the programs and agreed to email the Town Clerk specific information.

### **Old business**

None

**New business (8:26)**

Supervisor LaPointe stated the preliminary budget was available to the public, and will be available until the public hearing on November 8, 2018 at 7pm before the regular meeting of the Town Board. The budget for 2019 had changes consisting of an increase to the Putnam Volunteer Fire Department of approximately 30%. Supervisor LaPointe suggest a discussion with the fire department about a three year contract with a 2% increase in subsequent years. Councilman Harris voiced he'd like that with the addition of oversight. This will be discussed at a later date. There are also salary increases for the Superintendent of Highways, the Town Clerk and the Planning Board Clerk. The overall budget will increase approximately 2%. Leslie Bain asked why the cost for medical benefits on the Highway appropriations went down. Supervisor LaPointe explained that two of the men do not take the insurance, but get a payback of 25% on the portion that the town would have paid, lowering the overall cost of health insurance for the Highway Department. Councilman Hart asked if there had been any new information on the Champlain Power Express. Supervisor LaPointe replied that there is nothing new to report.

**Resolution #94**

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

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

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

Next meeting: November 8<sup>th</sup>, opening at 7pm with a public hearing on the budget with the regular meeting immediately following.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr  
Putnam Town Clerk

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

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

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

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

Greg Harris \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman

Mr. Windle's map submission

