

**Solar Law Public Hearing
&
Regular Meeting
Of the
Putnam Town Board**

August 11, 2022, 7PM ~ Putnam Town Hall ~ Zoom

6:37 SOLAR LAW PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Supervisor Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 6:37.

Supervisor Wilson first addressed residents attending by ZOOM, asking for any comments or questions, there were none. Supervisor Wilson addressed the room asking for comments or questions. Karl Ohly commented first. Mr. Ohly expressed his belief that there is language in the law that does not meet New York State Agriculture and Markets law section 305-a. He continued New York State clean energy standard wants there to be as much solar as possible, this law “flies in the face of that”. Mr. Ohly expressed that in the future the Town of Putnam may have to “expend significant funds to defend this plan”. Mr. Ohly also expressed he felt the bond requirement is over-reaching, suggesting property liens would be more appropriate.

Todd Harris addressed the Board next. Mr. Harris expressed concern about the 500’ set-back on property lines for commercial solar arrays saying, “it doesn’t leave much room for anything”. Mr. Harris pointed out that “taxes don’t go down; it doesn’t matter if you have cattle on it or not”. Mr. Harris vocalized that solar may help save his family farm with the income generated, he’s exploring options and opportunities on ways to keep the farm in the family, solar might be an income option.

Supervisor Wilson asked if there were any further comments, questions, or concerns three times, there were none.

Public Hearing closed at 6:47.

6:48 Meeting called to order

Supervisor Charlie Bain 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), David Hayes (PVFD President, Resident, 560 Gull Bay Road), Cee McKenzie (Budget Officer, 526 Gull Bay Road), Karl Ohly (Resident, 428 County Route 3), Todd Harris (Resident, 629 Liddle-Harris Road), Tami Harris (Resident, 629 Liddle-Harris Road), Bill Brown (Planning Board Chair, 17 Charter Brook Lane)

Present via ZOOM May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Nancy Wolf-Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road)

Resolution # 74

Accept the minutes of the July 14, 2022, Regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board

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

Resolution #75

Accept the Financial Officer’s report for the month of July 2022

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

Resolution #76

Accept the Town Clerk’s report for the month of July 2022

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

Resolution #77

Accept the Town Justice Report for the month of July 2022

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

Resolution #78

Pay bills as audited

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

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

General Fund	# 190-207	\$7,905.56
Highway Fund	# 78-86	\$5,412.55
Royal Anchorage Sewer District	# 2	\$1391.00

Correspondence

New York State Department of Health Beach Inspection Report (See attached)
Supervisor Wilson complimented the Putnam Volunteer Fire Department on their outstanding newsletter and their commitment to communications with the community.

Courtesy of the floor

Supervisor Wilson asked for comments or questions from the audience. There were none.

Highway Report (6:55)

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway opened by recalling work that needs to be done on Black Point Road. HS Treadway continued that the Town of Ticonderoga will be paving in that area and have given an opportunity for shimming Putnam’s stretch of road.

Resolution #79

Authorize the Highway Superintendent to move forward on shimming Black Point Road using resources available.

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

HS Treadway continued his report indicating he had spoken with Washington County Code Enforcement about the proposed deck at Cummings Park. He relayed from Code Enforcement that the Town is exempt from paying the building permit fee, however building code still must be followed. HS Treadway indicated it's a much larger project than anticipated and will need to be reviewed. HS Treadway was also concerned about the erosion of the bank, and how to stabilize it before building. Councilman Bain suggested that the parking area also needs work and might be a more economical place to begin improvements at the park. Deputy Clerk Mary Jane Dedrick suggested a walkway first because people already use the park for walking. HS Treadway opined a walkway may be possible in the fall. The Town Clerk added that the Recs and Park Committee had discussed memorial benches on the walkway that could be donated by residents.

Planning Board Report (7:11)

Planning Board Chair Bill Brown reported that the Planning Board had 3 applicants at their meeting. The Adirondack Camp returned with plans for their health center. Everything is completed, they're currently waiting for documents from the APA (Adirondack Park Agency). A public hearing has been tentatively scheduled for the September meeting. The second applicant was Darrell Wilson with a 24' X 30', 1 ½ story addition to his existing home. A public hearing on the Wilson project was scheduled for the September meeting providing the ADA jurisdictional letter arrives by August 29th. The third applicant, Travis Whitford, whose project is a 3-bedroom dwelling and a barn on Peterson Road. A public hearing for the Whitford project will be held at September's meeting. Eric Geisel had a preliminary meeting with the Planning Board. Mr. Geisel's project is a detached garage on a slab, he will gather his project information and return to the Planning Board. The Planning Board reviewed the proposed Solar Law and had no issues with the current document. Chairman Brown reported he signed one LRCC1 for a residential solar installation.

Fire Department report (7:14)

Putnam Volunteer Fire Department President David Hayes reported the FD had 12 calls in July. 5 EMS, 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 drowning, 1 fire at Sylvamo, 1 grass fire, 1 stand by, 1 downed power line, 1 false alarm. The annual newsletter was mailed out, approximately 700 letters went out. The Chicken Barbeque went well, tickets sold out in 1 ½ hours. The dive team was invited by Warren County Sherriff's Department to join those on call for water and ice rescue events throughout Warren County. The FD has purchased a used rescue truck from a fire department in Canandaigua for \$17,000, a 1995 F400, with 24,000 miles. The 2 bathrooms at the firehouse were renovated, also some plumbing problems have been addressed, and weather stripping placed on leaky areas.

Old business

CHPE Road Contract- Supervisor Wilson distributed copies of a proposed road agreement with Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE). Supervisor Wilson reviewed key points of the proposed agreement with the Board. Karl Ohly asked if the bond in the agreement would cover any decrease in the performance of the well on his property, and how long after the project does the bond expire. Supervisor Wilson stated that the bond is good for 3 months after completion, and although unsure, thought that the well might be covered in the residual project damage portion of the agreement. Councilman Shiell asked to wait a month before voting on authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Road Agreement with CHPE.

Proposed Solar Law- Supervisor Wilson reviewed the two-year timeline that the Board has been working on the proposed solar law, and the 3 public hearings. Councilman Mallon expressed concern about the screening portion of the law. Planning Board Chair Brown agreed it can be a sticky situation, but each case will be looked at on its own merit.

Resolution #80

Enact Local Law #1 of 2022 As It Relates to The Regulation of Solar Energy Collectors in the Town of Putnam

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilman Christopher Mallon.

Roll Call:

Darrell Wilson	Yes
Christopher Mallon	Yes
Carole Schneider	Yes
Larry Shiell	Yes
Charles Bain Sr	Yes

All in favor; Resolution unanimously adopted.

Supervisor Wilson advised that some budget lines need to be adjusted periodically, per the advice of the New York State Auditor. The following budget lines will be adjusted.

Resolution #81 Budget transfers

Transfer funds on budget lines as indicated

<u>Transfer from</u>	<u>Transfer to</u>	<u>\$Amount</u>
1220	1220.1	\$ 9,750.00
1220	1220.4	\$ 250
1990.4	6510.4	\$ 110
1990.4	7310.4	\$2500

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

Resolution #81

Adjourn the Regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board

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

Budget Workshop – September 7, 2022, at 6 PM at Putnam Town Hall.

The Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board adjourned at 7:55 PM

Next Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board September 8, 2022, at 7 PM at Putnam Town Hall & ZOOM. Links can be found on the homepage of www.townofputnamny.com on the night of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

Darrell Wilson_____	Supervisor	Christopher Mallon_____	Councilman
Carole Schneider_____	Councilwoman		
Charles Bain Sr_____	Councilman	Larry Shiell_____	Councilman