

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, April 10th, 2014

The meeting was opened and began by auditing the bills, the Supervisor's monthly report and the Town Clerk's monthly report. The meeting was started with Councilman Kevin Hart leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following members present:

Present: Supervisor John LaPointe
Councilman Greg Harris
Councilwoman Shirley Randall
Councilman Kevin Hart

Absent: Councilwoman Cathie Burke

Others present:

Patricia Wilson (Town Clerk); Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent),
Bob Rudt, Cee McKenzie, Chris Navitsky (Lake George Water Keeper),
Andy Rympk and Dave Wick.

Resolution #54

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2014 TOWN BOARD MEETING

On motion of Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Harris the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

Resolution #55

ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 2014

On motion of Councilwoman Randall, seconded by Councilman Harris the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

Resolution #56

ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 2014

On motion of Councilwoman Randall, seconded by Councilman Hart the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

Resolution #57

PAY AUDITED BILLS

On motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilman Hart the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

RESOLVED that bills be paid on Abstract #4 in the following amounts:

General Account	# 70 - 101	\$ 35,111.22
Highway Account	# 51 - 73	\$ 23,277.88
Black Point Sewer District	# 2 - 3	\$ 28,416.15
Royal Anchorage	# 1	\$ 27,884.38

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter of Resignation

Supervisor LaPointe read aloud a letter of resignation from our Assessor for 30 years, June Manicek. June thanks the Board and the Town of Putnam "for the large and mostly harmonious part the Town of Putnam has played in my life." (See attached letter)

All files will be turned over to the new Assessor on April 30th, 2014.

Supervisor LaoPointe reports that he has spoken to William McCarty, who is the former Real Property Tax Director for Washington County. Supervisor LaPointe asked Mr. McCarty if he would consider filling out the balance of June Manicek's term. Mr. McCarty agrees to do so and informs the Board of his past accomplishments and answered questions that were asked by the Board. Also there is a letter from Maureen Wetter, Real Property Analyst, informing the Board that Mr. McCarty meets the qualifications standards for sole appointed assessor as prescribed in the Real Property Tax Law.

Resolution #58

APPOINT WILLIAM MCCARTY SOLE ASSESSOR EFFECTIVE MAY 1ST 2014

On motion of Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Harris, the following resolution was ADOPTED by Roll Call; AYES 4, Nays 0

Whereas, June Manicek has served in the position of sole Assessor for the Town of Putnam for the past 28 years; and

Whereas, June has fulfilled her duties in a professional manner with the utmost integrity; and

Whereas, June has submitted her resignation effective May 1st, 2014; now therefore be it.

Resolved that William McCarty be appointed sole Assessor effective May 1st, 2014 for a term ending September 30th, 2019, pending satisfactory review of minimum standards as established by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance; and be it further

Resolved, that the compensation will be as established for the sole Assessor in the 2014 budget.

Roll Call

Supervisor John LaPointe	AYE
Councilman Kevin Hart	AYE
Councilwoman Cathie Burke	ABSENT
Councilwoman Shirley Randall	AYE
Councilman Greg Harris	AYE

Councilman Harris presented a letter from Bert Windle asking that he pass the letter on to the Board to read. Mr. Windle is concerned that Supervisor LaPointe and the Board might overlook advising the taxpayers of the status of the collection efforts by the Town Assessor on our behalf, in the sum of \$5,000.00. After reading the letter, Supervisor LaPointe informed the Board that he had a conversation with the people that are writing the check. He was informed that the amount has been approved and is forth coming for \$5,000.00. (See attached letter)

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None

PLANNING BOARD

Bob Rudt informed the Board that there was a Public Hearing for Tim Johnson's new home in Royal Anchorage. The Site Plan Review approved his plan.

Lake George Land Conservancy wants to install a parking lot on the Warrick Road.

Independent Towers are proposing a 120 foot tower on Leslie Bain's property with a 75' x 75' clearing. Everyone will have power.

Lot adjustment in Glenburnie.

Bob Geh is asking for a three piece sub-division. The APA will have to approve. He will have to get rid of a trailer that is on the property before he can go ahead.

Eugene Granger is asking to combine a two piece lot into one lot.

White's sub-division have three lawsuits, the main issue is regarding open developing road.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway informs the Board that there are two weeks left for the roads to be posted. They will be sweeping the roads next . Coming up, they will be working on the railroad crossing.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Wick

Dave is here to give a run-down on the invasive species problem. There will be six inspection stations. Hulett's and Mossey Point among them. Bob Rudt has tagged and sealed about 75 boats in town. Bob also demonstrated the use of the seals. Justin Leeke can be called for anyone looking for information at 361-0985 or 668-9347. Information can also be found on the Putnam website.

Park Progress - Andy Rymyk - Town Park Pavilion Bid Invitation

The reason Mr. Rymyk is here tonight is to inform the Board that the set of contract documents and pictures of the pavilion are here. This project will consist of site preparation and construction of a 26 x 36 timber framed open air pavilion with metal roofing, concrete slab and masonry piers. Documents can be looked at the Putnam Town Hall. Mr. Rymyk will also have documents at his Queensbury and Troy offices. Bids will be opened on the 5th of May and read on the 8th of May at the Town board meeting. The Town will have up to 45 days to award the bid. Councilman Hart asked "what happens if we can't get access to the tracks?" Andy explained that the project would be put on hold. Supervisor LaPointe explained that all of the trailer equipment for the crossing will be here by the first week in June. Supervisor LaPointe also met with the power company.

Resolution #59

TOWN PARK PAVILION BID INVITATION

On motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilman Hart, the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Putnam does agree to authorize the Chazen Company to start the process and move forward regarding the Town Park Pavilion Bid Invitation,

Resolved, that this information will be advertised in the local papers within the vicinity (ex: Times of Ti, Whitehall Times and the Post Star)

Boat Launch Rules, Regulations, Hours, etc.

A discussion was held concerning the rules and regulations and hours for the boat launch. Councilman Hart asked what they anticipate the cost will be? Supervisor LaPointe answered that the proposed schedule is 105 hours per week, 6AM to 9PM daily. The proposed length of time for the year will be May 15th until October on Columbus Day. Councilman Hart feels it is too much money.

Resolution #60

BOAT LAUNCH RULES, REGULATIONS, HOURS ETC.

On motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Randall, the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 3, Nays 1

Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam do agree that the Gull Bay Boat Launch, starting May 15th and ending on October 15th with exceptions (ex: July 4th) will be open 6AM to 9PM seven days a week.

NEW BUSINESS

Royal Anchorage Sewer District Hook-up

Supervisor LaPointe informs the Board that there was an agreement back in 1989 with Mr. Zelanis. Mr. Zelanis was given 2 years to hook up to the Sewer District which has not been done. The Supervisor will have the Town Code Enforcement Officer Bill Ball, talk to him and tell him that he has 30 days to hook-up to the Sewer District.

NY CLASS

The Supervisor explains that we used to put money in Class. Class is now paying .004 which is three times what we are getting now. The Supervisor read the resolution into the minutes. (see attached)

Resolution #61

NY CLASS

On motion of Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Harris, the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

Whereas, the Town of Putnam wishes to invest certain of its available investment funds in cooperation with other corporations pursuant to a municipal cooperation agreement;

Whereas, the Town of Putnam wishes to assure the safety and liquidity of its funds;

Now therefore, it is hereby resolved as follows that Supervisor John LaPointe is hereby

authorized to execute and deliver the Cooperative Investment in the name of and on behalf of the Town of Putnam.

Vermont Gas System - Addison - Rutland Natural Gas Project

The Supervisor explains that the Ticonderoga Supervisor is asking the Town of Putnam for a resolution regarding the Vermont Natural Gas System Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project.

Resolution #62

VERMONT GAS SYSTEM

On motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Randall, the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PUTNAM
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, STATE OF NEW YORK

Resolution # 62 of 2014
Adopted April 10th, 2014

Introduced by John LaPointe
Who moved its adoption

RESOLUTION REGARDING VERMONT GAS SYSTEM
ADDISON-RUTLAND NATURAL GAS PROJECT

Whereas, Vermont Gas has proposed a 41 mile extension to their natural gas lines from Chittenden and Franklin Counties in the State of Vermont, to Addison and Rutland Counties, known as Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project; and

Whereas, the International Paper mill located in Ticonderoga, New York is an integral part of the Champlain Valley Region; and

Whereas, the Ticonderoga Mill's energy costs are significantly higher than their competition in other states due to dependence on fuel oil and rising costs; and

Whereas, natural gas is deemed to be a cost-effective alternative to fuel oil; and

Whereas, clean, affordable natural gas is a sustainable alternative to other more costly and more environmentally unsound fuel sources; and

Whereas, International Paper approached Vermont Gas for a connection beneath Lake Champlain to connect to the International Paper mill; and

Whereas, conversion by the Ticonderoga Mill to cleaner natural gas will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which is a benefit to eastern State including Vermont; and

Whereas, the Vermont Gas System's Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project also presents an opportunity for the Ticonderoga Mill to access natural gas via a pipeline lateral to the mill which will continue to benefit more than a thousand families who have family members employed directly or indirectly by or through the International Paper Mill; and

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Putnam does wish to go on record in support of the Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam hereby expresses its support for the Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Pipeline Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam urges the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) to include our voice, as a party with a vested interest in the Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam urges the ACRPC to act in good faith and compliance with the Commission's obligation to neighboring communities to be inclusive in ACRPC discussions as defined in <http://files.crpc.org/bylaws/flipbook/#1/> and further articulated in 24 V.S.A> Section 4335a(4); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam urges the Addison County Regional Planning Commission to delay voting on their recommendation until neighboring communities have had the opportunity to be part of the discussion; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam believes that the ACRPC must take into account the environmental impacts of their decisions, including a negative recommendation on the Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project, which would foreclose the opportunity for the Ticonderoga International Paper Mill to convert to cleaner natural gas; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the event the ACRPC does not delay vote on the project, the Town Board of the Town of Putnam urges the Addison County Regional Planning Commission to recommend approval of the Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project.

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor John LaPointe	AYE
Councilman Kevin Hart	AYE
Councilwoman Cathie Burke	ABSENT
Councilwoman Shirley Randall	AYE
Councilman Greg Harris	AYE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam does agree with the Town of Ticonderoga to recommend approval of the Addison-Rutland Natural Gas Project.

On motion of Councilwoman Randall, seconded by Councilman Harris to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:35PM.

Respectfully submitted Patricia Wilson Patricia Wilson,
Town Clerk.

John LaPointe _____ Supervisor

Greg Harris _____ Councilman

Shirley Randall _____ Councilwoman

Cathie Burke ABSENT _____ Councilwoman

Kevin Hart _____ Councilman