

Regular Meeting Of the Putnam Town Board

January 12, 2023, 7PM ~ Putnam Town Hall ~ Zoom

7:00 Meeting called to order

Councilman Charles Bain Sr. 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), Cee McKenzie (Budget Officer, BAR Chair, 526 Gull Bay Road), Doug Thatcher (Putnam VFC Chief, 351 County Route 2), Leslie Bain (Resident, 371 Peterson Road),

Present via ZOOM: John Breitenbach (Town Attorney, 2749 Main Street, Crown Point, NY 12928) May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Nancy Wolf-Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road), Karl Ohly (Resident, 428 County Route 3), Corey Granger (Highway Dept., 139 Craig Road), Diane Granger (Resident, 139 Craig Road).

Resolution # 1

Accept the minutes of the December 8, 2022, meeting

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

Resolution #2

Accept the Budget Officer's report for the month of December 2022

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

Resolution # 3

Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of December 2022

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

Resolution # 4

Accept the Town Justice Report for the month of December 2022

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

Resolution #5

Pay bills as audited

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

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

General Fund	# 1-8	\$16,744.58
Highway Fund	# 1-4	\$3,844.45
Black Point Sewer District	# 1	\$21,123.14

Correspondence

Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) -Wastewater Regulations & Septic Program (See attached)
Charter Communications (Spectrum)- Rate increases for equipment and services effective January 17, 2023.

Planning Board Clerk Communication (See attached)

Accounts Clerk Communication updating the Board on the progress with annual reports & the accounts.

Courtesy of the floor (7:09)

Leslie Bain addressed the Board addressing the power line potential revenue stream. Mrs. Bain expressed she felt it prudent to not make plans for the revenue until it actually comes. Mrs. Bain asked why cost of living increases were given to the Highway Superintendent and the Town Clerk by the Board.

Highway Report (7:11)

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported that the crew and equipment are prepared for the rest of the winter season. The stockpile is good. The highway crew adapted an older plow with a live edge that is working well. It is a much less expensive version of the “live edge” plow. The plow has spring loaded sections that move with the surface of the road doing a much better job than a traditional plow. The video security system at the garage is now fully operational and recording 24/7.

Planning Board Report

None

Fire Department Report (7:18)

Chief Doug Thatcher presented the Fourth Quarter Report compiled by FD member David Hayes. (See attached). Chief Thatcher indicated that Mr. Hayes would continue to work on the quarterly reports in the coming year. Chief Thatcher indicated that the final numbers for calls has changed from the report to 108 activations and 105 responses with 21 structure fires between Putnam and Ticonderoga. Chief Thatcher reported there was a sharp increase in calls in 2022. The FD asked why the amount on the tax bill collected for the FD is different than their contract amount. The Town Clerk responded that the additional amount is a charge back to the County and does not come to the Town. The Clerk advised the Chief to call Washington County Office of Real Property for a more detailed explanation of how the chargeback works.

Old Business (7:25)

Court Audits- each year the Town is required to submit a court audit report. Putnam Town Board audits the court case records/payments/deposits and the Comptroller report submission every month throughout the year.

Resolution #6

Approve the Town Court’s Annual Audit, as done monthly, for the year 2022

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilman Mallon; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Financial Data Entry & NYS Coding- Supervisor Wilson presented a mock report showing how accounts are broken out with New York State Uniform System of Accounts. This will be helpful to track actual spending for future budget years.

Beach Regulations

The Board received a copy of Putnam’s current regulations for beach use. Ticonderoga’s beach lies within the boundaries of the Town of Putnam. Putnam may need to change the law to accommodate the Town of Ticonderoga’s beach. The current law is specific to Gull Bay Beach. The intent is to incorporate into the law the items Ticonderoga needs.

New Business (7:35)

2023 Legislative Agenda- Supervisor Wilson presented the Board with a legislative agenda for 2023. The Board reviewed the items listed. (See attached)

The Town Clerk commented that the Cemetery Regulations are complete except for the specs for stone placement. The regulations will be complete once the specs are applied to the document. Councilman Shiehl agreed to do a diagram of the specs for the regulations.

Resolution #7 (8:02)

Adjourn the regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board

On motion of Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Schneider; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board adjourned at 8:02PM

Next meeting February 9th, 2023, at 7PM

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

Darrell Wilson _____ Supervisor

Christopher Mallon _____ Deputy Supervisor

Carole Schneider _____ Councilwoman

Larry Shiehl _____ Councilman

Charles Bain Sr. _____ Councilman



Darlene Kerr <townclerk@townofputnamny.com>

Fwd: LGPC Wastewater Regulations and Septic Inspection Program

1 message

Darrell Wilson <supervisor.wilson@townofputnamny.com>

Sat, Jan 7, 2023 at 11:46 AM

To: Darlene Kerr <townclerk@townofputnamny.com>, Bill Brown <billb0957@aol.com>, John Breitenbach <jbreitenbach@ticonderogalaw.com>

Info

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dave Wick** <dave@lgpc.state.ny.us>

Date: Thu, Jan 5, 2023 at 3:25 PM

Subject: LGPC Wastewater Regulations and Septic Inspection Program

To: Mayor Blais <lgvmayor@nycap.rr.com>, Dennis Dickinson <dldmgt@gmail.com>, Ron Conover

<supervisor@town.bolton.ny.us>, Edna Frasier <supervisor@townofhague.org>, Mark Wright

(supervisor@townofticonderoga.org) <supervisor@townofticonderoga.org>, Darrell Wilson <supervisor.wilson@

townofputnamny.com>, Paul Ferguson <TownOfDresden@hotmail.com>, Hall Sam <shall@washingtoncountyny.gov>, John

Strough <qbysupervisor@queensbury.net>

Cc: ken.rekrap@gmail.com <ken.rekrap@gmail.com>

Lake George Regional Town Supervisors and Mayor Blais,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a safe and enjoyable holiday with your families.

As you know, for the past 18 months the Commission has undertaken a detailed and deliberate process to better understand the potential impacts of septic systems on Lake George. We held monthly public meetings via Zoom with our Ad-Hoc committee consisting of public and private engineers, town planning staff, local elected officials and other experts. At the end of this process, the Ad-Hoc committee recommended to the Commission that we put forth a recurrent septic system inspection program for all properties within 500 feet of Lake George and 100 feet of DEC regulated streams (approximately 2,700 properties total).

Following months of public input and a full public hearing in November, I am pleased to report that our Commission Board voted unanimously to support and implement this program at our December 20th meeting, making it a new regulation for the Lake George Park. Detailed information on the program and the regulations can be found on the Commission's website at www.lgpc.ny.gov. The plan is to inspect one-fifth of this total number each year, so each property gets inspected on a five-year interval, similar to several other lakes in NYS. The cost to property owners in this program is \$50 annually, and for commercial properties with more complex systems the fee is \$100.

We have been sending direct letters to all involved property owners about this initiative, working to keep everyone informed. Our next letter will be going out in mid to late January. If your constituents reach out to you about this program, please feel free to direct them to me and I will be happy to discuss it with them.

On behalf of LGPC Chairman Ken Parker and our Board of Commissioners, thanks to all of you who have worked to send resolutions of support and to encourage our agency to take this important step forward. Please reach out at any time if you would like to discuss this initiative or any other Lake George topic.

Best Regards,

Clerk Copy



Darlene Kerr <townclerk@townofputnamny.com>

Charter Communications Price Adjustment Notice 12/16/22

2 messages

Ritchie, Joseph R <Joseph.Ritchie@charter.com>

Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 3:50 PM



December 16, 2022

Re: Charter Communications – Upcoming Changes

Dear Franchise Official:

We value our customers and are committed to providing them with the latest products and technology, and we work hard to keep prices as low as possible. Despite our best efforts, rising costs including programming fees charged by TV networks have impacted our pricing. Customers are being notified via bill message regarding the following price changes that will take effect on or after January 17, 2023. Note that these changes will not affect current customers' promotional rates until the end of the promotional period.

Services/Products/Equipment	Change
Broadcast TV Surcharge	Will increase by \$1.20/month.
Spectrum TV Select	Will increase by \$5.00/month.
Spectrum TV Silver	Will increase by \$5.00/month.
Spectrum TV Gold	Will increase by \$5.00/month.
Spectrum Mi Plan Latino	Will increase by \$2.00/month.
Spectrum Mi Plan Latino Silver	Will increase by \$2.00/month.
Spectrum Mi Plan Latino Gold	Will increase by \$2.00/month.
Spectrum Lifestyle Plan	Will increase by \$2.00/month.

Services/Products/Equipment	Change
Spectrum Lifestyle Plan Silver	Will increase by \$2.00/month.
Spectrum Lifestyle Plan Gold	Will increase by \$2.00/month.
Spectrum Digital Receivers	Each will increase by \$1.00/month.
Spectrum Digital Terminal Adapters	Will increase by \$1.00/month.
Cable Cards	Will increase by \$3.05/month.

We remain committed to providing excellent communications and entertainment services in your community.

If you have any questions about this change, please feel free to contact me at 518-640-8475 or via email at samuel.parker@charter.com.

Sincerely,



Samuel Parker
 Director, Government Affairs
 Charter Communications

PUTNAM PLANNING BOARD
15 COUNTY ROUTE 3
PUTNAM STATION, NY 12861

January 12, 2023

Putnam Town Board:

The Putnam Planning Board received a response from Karl and Lani Ohly regarding our request to appear before the board to discuss their Site Plan Review violation. The letter was acknowledged and the Ohly's did not attend our January 11th meeting as requested.

Respectfully Submitted as directed by the board,

Paula Wilson

Planning Board Clerk

2023 Town of Putnam Legislative Agenda

Beach Law Updates

Site Plan Review Updates

Cemetery Regulation

Dog Control Law Updates

Mobile Home Law Updates

Employee Handbook

Policies

Ethics

Sexual Harassment

Data Protection

Whistleblower

Workplace Violence

Breach Notification

Vehicle Use

Online Banking

Cell Phone Use

Attendance Compensation-Reimbursement

Investment and procedures

AUD's (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

2024 Budget

Champlain Hudson Power Express project

Gull Bay Storm Water project

Sagamore Road

Final paving of Hutton Square

Tax exemption for Senior Citizens

Putnam Volunteer Fire Company (PVFC)
4th Quarter 2022 Report to the Putnam Town Board
January 12, 2023
Presented by D. Tucker, PVFC President

Staffing and Training

There are currently 11 members in the Putnam Volunteer Fire Co.. Five members are Firefighter II certified, one is FF I, four have completed the basic introductory firefighting course (Basic Exterior Fire Operations, or BEFO) but not Interior Fire Operations (IFO), which would make them FF I certified, and one has completed the fire police course. Two members are certified EMT's and all members have current CPR certifications. Company members are expected to regularly refresh and update their skills through weekly drills and formal coursework led by NYS certified instructors. In December, four members attended a class at the Fort Edwards firehouse, offered by Canadian Pacific Railways, on how to respond to railway emergencies.

It is especially noteworthy that our Chief has recently become a certified NYS instructor, eligible to teach courses in firefighting throughout NYS. He is one of only 7 such certified instructors in Washington County. Moreover, this Fall he completed a program at the NYS Fire Academy that extends his certification to the entire country and covers several firefighting specialties.

Emergency Responses

During the 4th quarter the PVFC responded to twenty-three 911 calls resulting in 102 calls for all of 2022. This can be compared with 73 calls in 2021 and an average of 66 calls/year for 2017-21. Our 4th quarter calls were as follows:

EMS --- 12 (52%)
Power lines down --- 4
Motor Vehicle Accidents in Putnam --- 2
Structure Fires --- 2 (1 in Ticonderoga and 1 in Dresden)
Fire alarm activations in Putnam (but no fire) --- 2
Standby at the Ticonderoga Fire station --- 1

To provide historical context a table is included as an appendix to this report summarizing the number and types of 911 callouts the fire company has received since 2017. The jump in calls in 2022 relative to 2021 is due to a large increase in EMS emergencies (+18), motor vehicle accidents (+7), and fires in Ticonderoga and Dresden (+7). Offsetting this were fewer standbys at the Ticonderoga fire station (-8).

Budget Forecast, Expenditures, and Overall Financial Condition of the Company

We have enclosed as an appendix a current version of our 2022 budget (revenues and forecasted expenditures) together with a description of actual monthly expenditures through the end of 2022.

The balance in our operating budget account at the end of December was \$52,584.61, which must last until March 1, 2023 when we receive next year's contractual payment from the Town for emergency services. Since our combined January and February expenses for the last two years have been under \$20,000 we expect that we will have sufficient funds remaining on March 1st to make an early payment on our one outstanding truck loan.

Our budget forecast for 2023 is also included as an appendix. Besides small inflationary adjustments to several budget lines, we have increased our set aside for the truck replacement fund from \$24,000 to \$30,000, which we will increase to \$35,000 in 2024 to cover the annual loan payment of \$34,666.11 for our new truck. We have also increased the set aside for unplanned truck repairs from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and the allowance for fire equipment purchases from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Monies for these increases came from retiring two loans in 2022, which freed up \$20,000 to be allocated to other needs in the budget.

Condition of the Fire Trucks

The PVFC now has five fire trucks: two engine/pumpers and one water tanker for fighting fires and responding to motor vehicle accidents and hazardous incidents, one pickup truck for EMS calls and one truck to take members and their gear to rescue scenes. The latter truck was purchased during 2022 from another fire company and will be especially useful to our dive team as a place where they can transport and change into their water and ice rescue gear. The truck is 26 years old and cost us \$17,000. **We paid for it and will maintain it using funds from our fundraising account.**

All our trucks undergo regular servicing and NYS inspections. Our engine/pumpers are 31 and 9 years old, our tanker is 20 years old, our pickup truck is 5 years old, and our recently acquired rescue truck, as noted above, is 26 years old. One of the engine/tankers is short and has 4-wheel drive making it particularly suitable for reaching houses on narrow and unpaved roads, such as are found in the Gull Bay and Glenburnie areas. However, it is 31 years old and is in need of replacing, which will occur in 2023. The \$400,000 loan for this purchase will be amortized over 15 years at an annual interest rate of 2.74% with an annual premium of \$34,666.11 starting on July 1, 2024. As noted in the previous section, our budget is gradually being adapted to handle this expense, with \$24,000 set aside for truck replacement expenses in 2022, \$30,000 in 2023, and \$35,000 planned for 2024. Our fire trucks collectively carry 4,300 gallons of water, which is needed because the Town does not have fire hydrants. After we replace our 31-year old engine/pumper, which carries only 500 gallons of water, our overall water carrying capacity will increase to 5,000 gallons.

Condition of other Equipment

Our other emergency response equipment is in good shape. There is a need for periodic inspections and replacement of hoses and air-packs, inspections of ladders and fire extinguishers, and calibration checks of air monitors. We are up-to-date on all of these and the future costs of doing these are built into each year's budget forecast.

Condition of the Fire Station Building and Grounds

The fire station has many maintenance needs but none of them are emergencies. All the basic systems, heating, septic, electrical, and water, are functioning properly. The maintenance concerns pertain to poor insulation, poor condition of the interior paint, broken plumbing fixtures, and the poor condition of the interior walls. During 2022 we identified 22 maintenance projects to correct these problems, and these have been prioritized by our members. We have set aside \$11,000 in the 2023 budget to continue work on this much-needed maintenance and already completed several of these projects during 2022. For example, both bathrooms have been renovated, a plumbing problem in the kitchen has been fixed, a source of heat loss through the back wall has been sealed, new weatherstripping has been installed on one of the doors, and another door that is the source of major heat loss is in the process of being replaced with a new door and door frame.

Communications to the Community

Our annual newsletter was mailed to all Putnam property owners during July.

External Grant Applications

We have contracted with Julie Burline of MJ Burben, Inc. to write grant applications on our behalf, for a fee of \$7,000/year. She has submitted a preliminary application to Senator Schumer's office for funds to do a complete renovation of the firehouse and is currently working on an AFG grant for funds to purchase an extractor and dryer for cleaning our turnout gear, which is a particularly high priority for us.

Fundraising Efforts

There have been three fundraising activities during 2022. One of our members organizes a baseball tournament each year in which he donates any surplus funds to the fire company. This year his gift was \$1,664. Our annual Chicken BBQ fundraiser on July 23rd netted \$1,400 after expenses of about \$8,000. Our annual newsletter, which came out in July and contains an appeal, resulted in a little over \$11,000 in gifts.

PVFC Incident Statistics

Prepared by D. Hayes --- Last Updated on 01/06/2023

Type of Incident	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% of Responses Since 2017	2022 vs. 2021
EMS	31	22	30	35	29	47	44.7	+18
False & Cancelled Alarms	8	10	8	5	5	7	9.9	+2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	5	4	2	5	12	7.6	+7
Water Rescues	1		2	2	1	4	2.3	+3
Ice Rescues	2			1		2	1.2	+2
Other Rescues (hiking, snowmobiling, etc.)				1		0	0.2	
Standbys at Ti Fire Station	4	9	8	5	10	2	8.8	-8
Standbys at Putnam Fire Station					1	1	0.5	
Standbys at Dresden Fire Station				1		0	0.2	
Standbys at Whitehall Fire Station				1		0	0.2	
Fires in Putnam		6	5	4	5	5	5.8	
Fires in Ticonderoga	1	6	3	2	6	10	6.5	+4
Fires in Dresden	1	1	1			3	1.4	+3
Smoke	1	2		2	1	0	1.4	-1
CO Alarms	1		1			1	0.7	+1
Service calls (water in cellar, tree on road)	2		3			0	1.2	
Hazardous Situations (Elec., Chem.)	1	2		1		0	0.9	
Power Lines Down	1	1	2	5	10	7	6.0	-3
Lightning strikes		1				0	0.2	
Other		1				1	0.5	+1
	CHECK THE % SUMMATION						100.0	
TOTAL # OF RESPONSES	59	66	67	67	73	102	434	

2022 Putnam Volunteer Fire Company Operating Budget & YTD Expenses

Prepared by D. Hayes --- Last updated on 01/04/2023

BUDGETED REVENUE		ACTUAL EXPENDITURES DURING 2022 ↓												
ITEM	BUDGET	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	Nov.	Dec.	YTD Expenses
Putnam Town Fire Taxes	\$167,178.00													
Carried forward from 2021	\$21,619.89													
Interest Income From Bank	\$23.51													
Other Revenues	\$250.00													
TOTAL REVENUE	\$189,071.40													
BUDGETED EXPENDITURES														
ITEM	BUDGET													
Utilities														
National Grid	\$2,200.00	\$164.32	\$203.45	\$191.98	\$167.51	\$149.44	\$162.43	\$206.76	\$235.52		\$257.78	\$151.03	\$157.80	\$2,048.02
Verizon	\$600.00	\$45.56	\$45.46	\$45.46	\$45.38	\$45.26	\$45.65	\$47.58	\$47.94	\$47.10	\$46.74		\$47.74	\$509.87
JP Waste Management	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$96.14	\$48.07	\$50.47		\$50.47	\$245.15
Propane --- Avery	\$4,600.00	\$991.68	\$882.77	\$633.94	\$247.41	\$145.65						\$108.75	\$237.84	\$3,248.04
Fire Alarm --- Foresight	\$600.00	\$67.41			\$317.41			\$67.41			\$67.41			\$519.64
Internet --- Spectrum	\$511.87	\$107.98	\$107.98	\$107.98	\$107.98	\$187.93	-\$107.98							\$511.87
Building														
Cleaning	\$100.00													\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$200.00		\$150.00											\$150.00
Water Softener	\$100.00													\$0.00
Fire Prevention Education	\$0.00													\$0.00
Maintenance	\$12,000.00				\$97.82	\$416.67		\$1,369.17	\$550.54	\$213.84	\$424.03			\$3,072.07
Loan Paymt. to Town (Final 2022)	\$9,733.21		\$9,733.21											\$9,733.21
Fire & EMS Services														
Gas meter testing (B-Lann)	\$500.00										\$85.00	\$10.34		\$95.34
Airpack testing (Brigham)	\$3,000.00						\$321.10	\$2,839.60						\$3,160.70
Airpack parts	\$2,000.00									\$569.35				\$569.35
Hose service and Ladder Testing	\$2,200.00									\$2,396.80				\$2,396.80
Jaws service (Garrison)	\$1,200.00													\$0.00
Compressor. service (Garrison)	\$1,100.00					\$1,112.80								\$1,112.80
Fire extinguishers service	\$400.00													\$0.00
Fire equipment purchase	\$5,000.00				\$2,806.68	\$1,917.28		\$2,606.06					\$357.30	\$7,687.32
Turnout gear purchase	\$7,400.00			\$905.00						\$728.98			\$1,025.00	\$2,658.98
Volunteer physicals	\$2,300.00	\$35.00							\$1,750.00					\$1,785.00
Training & education	\$500.00		\$170.23											\$170.23
Radios and pagers (ADK 2-Way)	\$2,500.00													\$0.00
Misc. supplies (EMS & Firematic)	\$2,000.00	\$141.69	\$180.45	\$99.96		\$180.83	\$64.15	\$27.72	\$443.17	\$364.65			\$142.55	\$1,645.17
Miscellaneous														
Insurance --- Corporate	\$9,000.00				\$4,486.00								\$4,764.15	\$9,250.15
Insurance --- Accident and Sickness	\$252.00									\$252.00				\$252.00

