

**Regular Meeting**  
**Of the**  
**Putnam Town Board**

September 9, 2021, 7PM ~ Putnam Town Hall ~ Zoom

**7:20 Meeting called to order**

Councilman Larry Shiell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

<b>Members present:</b>	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), Doug Thatcher (PVFD Chief, 351 County Route 2)

**Present via ZOOM:** Cee McKenzie (BAR Chair, 526 Gull Bay Road), Bob Rudt (Planning Board, 526 Gull Bay Road), May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Nancy Wolf-Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road), Galen Seerup (Planning Board Chair, 17360 State Route 22), Dave Manchester (Resident, 5177 Sagamore Road), John Breitenbach (Town Attorney, 23 Father Jogues Place, Ticonderoga, NY 12883)

**Resolution # 78**

**Accept the minutes of the August 12, 2021, meeting**

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

**Resolution #79**

**Accept the Budget Officer's report for the month of August 2021**

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

**Resolution # 80**

**Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of August 2021**

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

**Resolution # 81**

**Accept the Town Justice Report for the month of August 2021**

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

**Resolution #82**

**Pay bills as audited**

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

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

General Fund	# 236-257	\$5,936.09
Highway Fund	# 87-97	\$7,531.02

**Correspondence** (7:08)

Supervisor Wilson acknowledged an email correspondence from resident Nancy Wolf-Fisher regarding recycling, reading it aloud to the room.

9/6/2021

Dear Supervisor Wilson and the Putnam Town Council,

I am writing in support of Putnam reinstating recycling. I know there are several decisions to be made at this time before the Town Council makes a final decision about recycling.

I wanted to express my concerns about a few items up for discussion.

Given the nature of people to try and save money, I don't think a program in which it costs more to recycle than it does to get rid of trash will end up being a successful program. Also, a program that requires people to bring their recycling some place, if it is only open once a month, will not be very successful.

A weekly drop off opportunity, either at no cost or at the same cost of trash, could work. A twice a month pick up (or perhaps once a month), again at the same cost as trash, could also work.

No matter whether the town is considering a drop off facility or once again collecting recyclables, I believe the town should try for the Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Program grant to help offset the costs.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wolf-Fisher  
5183 Sagamore Road

**Courtesy of the floor** (7:10)

Councilman Charlie Bain raised the issue of nuisance properties in Putnam. Councilman Bain expressed he has had conversations with residents regarding specific properties that appear to be a health/safety hazard. Supervisor Wilson indicated he would contact County Code Enforcement about specific properties.

Recreation Supervisor (RS) Mary Jane Dedrick addressed the Board next indicating that the beach needs new signage. The current signs are outdated and need to be replaced with current information. RS Dedrick

emphasized the need for the sign to clearly say “No Dogs on the beach”. There has been a continuing problem with residents taking dogs on the beach after hours. Supervisor Wilson added that the sign in Glenburnie is also in need of an updated replacement. RS Dedrick also discussed lifeguard training suggesting a contract with lifeguards. The cost to train a lifeguard is \$350. This year four lifeguards were certified but only two remained working for the entire season. RS Dedrick asked the Board to consider a contract with future lifeguards agreeing to complete an entire season in exchange for the training, however if they do not stay the entire summer season (8 weeks) they would need to reimburse the Town and taxpayers for the cost of training.

**Resolution #83**

**Replace signs at Gull Bay Beach and Glenburnie Fire Lane**

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

**Resolution #84**

**Training Contract with lifeguards stipulating if they fail to serve the entire season, they will reimburse the Town for the cost of training.**

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

**Highway Report (7:20)**

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported that half the crew has continued working on Schwerdtfeger Road in preparation for paving, while the other half is working on maintaining things like mowing. HS Treadway advised the Board that the tractor purchased has not arrived, it is currently being fitted, at Diamond, with the mowing apparatus. Arrival is expected in October. A discussion about the septic at the Town garage took place. It was decided that the new system would be allowed to settle until next year.

**Resolution # 85**

**Wait until the summer of 2022 to finish the septic build, and put a manhole cover on the system**

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

Supervisor Wilson advised the Board of communications with a resident in Black Point who had expressed concerns about Black Point Road needing repairs, and the Town’s prioritization process for paving roads.

**Planning Board Report (7:35)**

Planning Board Chair (PBC) Galen Seerup reported the Planning Board had four site plans, two will go to public hearing the remaining two still have work to do. The PB had one subdivision that the residents didn’t attend because of inclement weather. A second subdivision did not have approval from the Lake George Park Commission yet. PBC reported he signed four LLRC1 forms.

Supervisor Wilson updated the Board on the Governor’s extension to the moratorium on evictions. Part of that moratorium included an Open Meetings Law modification. It’s acceptable for members of a board to attend and vote virtually if the virtual members location is announced. The location does not have to be open to the public. Planning Board members can attend the meetings virtually. The Town Attorney will review the modification and report back. The PBC expressed that he believed to have people or members attend wouldn’t be prudent because of the documents and maps they handle. Councilwoman Schneider asked PBC Seerup if they’ll be on ZOOM so that a particular member could participate again. PBC Seerup replied, “I just don’t think that the, and the Board feels the same way, it’s unreasonable to assume that you can do this on ZOOM and see the technical documents yourself”. Supervisor Wilson asked if

documents are given to the Board in advance and if the documents could be provided in advance. PBC Seerup “highly doubts” that the Planning Board Clerk has the ability to copy everything to size. “you have to be at the meetings to understand the documents” PBC Seerup asserted that the Planning Board members feels the same way.

**Fire Department report** (7:50)

Chief Doug Thatcher addressed the Board indicating the Fire Department (FD) has begun work on the overhead doors and will be completed in the coming weeks. The furnace installation is expected to begin in the coming week as well. The FD awarded John Polunci the contract on the furnace installation after taking bids.

**Old business** (7:55)

Solar- Supervisor Wilson prompted the Board to recall the Solar Law packets they had received. Supervisor Wilson reviewed the progress saying the Public Hearing produced four key issues in the discussion; 1. The percent of lot size. 2. Setbacks. 3. Height of the structures. 4. Decommissioning costs/requirements. These four areas, and how to define them in a way that will enable people to build residential solar but discourage large scale commercial solar sites within Putnam is something for the Board to consider.

Court texting service- An account for the Court and Town Hall has been set up, each has an independent number for the texting service. The Court was recently mandated by New York State to notify defendants by text, email, or phone if the defendant indicates to the Court that they desire notifications. At this time the text service will be used to send messages only by the Court and Town Hall. The cost of each number is \$50 annually, plus a prepay for the messages. \$120 (\$10 per month) was spent in total to set the numbers up for the first year of service, \$20 was prepaid for the texts.

Parks & Recreation- Supervisor Wilson discussed with the Board the possibility of hiring a professional service to assist the Putnam Parks & Recreation Committee (PPARC) bring ideas to fruition. A professional could help visualize ideas and assist in detailing what is necessary to construct potential projects before they go to bid.

**Resolution #86**

**Authorize Supervisor Wilson to explore professional services and seek competitive bids on creating a vision for the park.**

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

Supervisor Wilson expressed he felt that part of the Master Plan includes recognizing those who contributed to the Park’s inception and development. A list will be developed and vetted. A plaque to recognize those involved will be designed. The PPARC will be asked to include this in their plans.

Councilman Shiell added he’d like to see the plaques at Town Hall updated as well.

Councilman Bain advised that the ballpark also needs attention, specifically the fences, tennis courts, parking, and bathrooms. Councilwoman Schneider suggested a volunteer weekend to recruit help at the ballpark.

Councilman Shiell suggested new exit/emergency lighting in the Town Hall. Councilman Bain agreed.

Chief Thatcher asked if the FD could have a copy of the Town’s Emergency Plan. Supervisor Wilson indicated he would send a copy to Chief Thatcher.

**Resolution #87**

**Move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and legal matters**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NO ACTION TAKEN**

**Resolution #87**

**Leave Executive Session and adjourn the regular meeting**

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

**The regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board closed at 8:55 PM.**

**Budget Public Hearing October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM prior to the Regular Meeting at the Putnam Town Hall & ZOOM.**

**Next Regular Meeting October 14<sup>th</sup> immediately following the Budget Public Hearing at the Putnam Town Hall & ZOOM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Kerr  
Putnam Town Clerk

Darrell Wilson \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor

Christopher Mallon \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman

Larry Shiell \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman

Carole Schneider \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman

Charles Bain Sr. \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman