

Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board

PUTNAM TOWN BOARD
MARCH 8, 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

Councilman Greg Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present:	Supervisor	John LaPointe
	Councilman	Darrell Wilson
	Councilman	Kevin Hart
	Councilwoman	Shirley Randall
	Councilman	Greg Harris

Others present: Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Town Clerk, P.O. Box 14), Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent, Treadway Lane), Cee McKenzie (BAR Chair, 526 Gull Bay Road), Bob Rudt (Planning Board, 526 Gull Bay Road), Charlie Bain Sr. (Resident, Boat Launch attendant, 17 Bain Lane), May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Sherry J. Kuhl (Resident, 7 Darling Hill), Ken Kuhl (Resident, 7 Darling Hill), Michael Furdyna (Resident, 3510 Gull Bay Ridge Way), Bob Coulter (Resident, 3512 Gull Bay Ridge Way)

Resolution # 46

Accept the minutes of the February 8, 2018 meeting

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

Resolution # 47

Accept the Supervisor's report for the month of February 2018

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

Resolution # 48

Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of February 2018

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

Resolution # 49

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	# 45-79	\$177,305.96
Highway Fund	# 29-37	\$9,310.28
Black Point Sewer District	# 2-3	\$14,418.63

Correspondence (7:07)

Supervisor LaPointe said he received a letter from Bonnie and Art Sheeley that was complimentary to the Town Clerk.

Courtesy of the floor (7:08)

Bob Coulter addressed the Board about possible run off from the beach. Mr. Coulter stated that the board walk was removed and crushed stone was put in. Supervisor LaPointe responded there was a 4' trench dug then drainage pipes were put in with the stone over it, where the previous board walk was. The board walk removed will be replaced. Mr. Coulter said at the August meeting he had brought plans from 2002 that addressed runoff that carried sand into Gull Bay, more specifically around residents docks. He inquired as to whether those plans were taken into consideration. Supervisor LaPointe replied "yes", those plans were taken into consideration by the project engineer Randy Rath. Mr. Coulter continued one of the issues addressed by those plans was the steep pitch of the beach. One of the recommendations was to do something about the pitch. Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway joined saying they did take approximately 10-12 inches off that pitch. Supervisor LaPointe replied also, saying the hope was that the current alterations would reduce the problem with runoff carrying sand into the water. Mr. Coulter asked if the plans being used currently were available to the public. Supervisor LaPointe stated that Randy Rath was the engineer who developed the plans and that Mr. Rath would have a copy. Mr. Coulter gave his phone number so that HS Gary Treadway could pass it along to Mr. Rath.

Mike Furdyna spoke next. Mr. Furdyna asked if anyone has taken a look at the area just south of the end of the beach. He stated there were 4-5 culverts that dump into the lake from the road. He went on saying years ago there was a drainage ditch where the water dumped and the sand and debris settled out of the water. He stated that ditch has filled in over the years and is no longer effective. He asked if anything can be done. HS Gary Treadway replied that he and Randy Rath have looked at that area in the past. Mr. Coulter said when it rains hard you can see the cloud of run off in the water in the lake. He also said other residents have taken pictures of it. He added it becomes more pronounced each year. Supervisor LaPointe replied he'd get Randy Rath to take another look at it to see what can be done. Bob Rudt joined the conversation saying this year, at the far end of the former drainage ditch, there is a 6" dip in the road. HS Gary Treadway replied that he is aware of it, and that would also be addressed with Randy Rath.

May Drinkwine-Shiell addressed the Board next. She stated she was very impressed with Donald Treadway our new Dog Control Officer. She stated she had contacted him through Facebook regarding dogs in her yard, and he arrived at her home within 40 minutes. She felt this was impressive. He responded quickly and addressed the situation promptly. Mrs. Drinkwine-Shiell also said with spring coming she will be out walking again. She reiterated how impressed she is with Mr. Treadway's performance thus far. Councilman Hart joined the dog conversation asking Supervisor LaPointe what the Town was going to do if a dog was collected by the Control Officer. Supervisor LaPointe said he's still investigating possible places to take the dogs in. He stated he'd contacted two businesses' however they didn't want to expose the dogs they have to possible illnesses carried by the dogs collected. Supervisor LaPointe said he had a third business, Granville Animal Hospital, to contact and make in inquiry about the possibility of boarding dogs collected in Putnam.

Highway report (7:23)

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway reported that the roads have been posted with the 6 ton load limit that is done annually during the spring thaw. He reported the equipment is running well. He continued saying the new truck delivery date is estimated to be around the end of April, in time for the busy spring season. HS Treadway also reported that the crew has been able to get out and begin cutting brush on Moore Road and Lake Road. Supervisor LaPointe asked how HS Treadway's budget was holding up. HS Treadway replied that there was still a little over 50% of sand, and salt usage was in line with the average use. Councilman Harris asked if HS Treadway had received any feedback about the salt metering program that the Highway Department is participating in. HS Treadway replied there has been no feedback as of this time. Councilman Harris asked Supervisor LaPointe to contact the Lake George Water Keeper Chris Navitsky to get an update on the data collected thus far. HS Treadway also sought approval to list the 2007 F350 truck in an online auction.

Resolution #50

Place the 2007 F350 in auction

All agree unanimous decision to allow HS Treadway to place the truck in an auction.

Planning Board report (7:28)

Bob Rudi reported that last month's meeting had three cases.

Rick and Evelyn Spann want to build a garage at 772 Gull Bay Road. They may need further approvals from outside agencies. Tim Johnson presented a site plan for a family dwelling in Royal Anorage. Bill Brown returned with an APA (Adirondack Park Agency) conditional approval for a subdivision on Charter Brook Lane.

Old Business (7:35)

Supervisor LaPointe reiterated that the Putnam rabies clinic will be held April 21st, 2018 at 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Putnam Town Hall. Dr. James Mack will be the veterinarian administering the rabies vaccinations.

Councilman Greg Harris asked if the Town Attorney John Breitenbach has made any progress on the Site Plan Review. Supervisor LaPointe stated Mr. Breitenbach is working on it and it's expected to be finished and ready for review in the coming month.

New Business (7:40)

Supervisor LaPointe read aloud the proposed resolution to support the Champlain Hudson Power Project's application to the State to amend their currently approved plan.

WHEREAS, the Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. (CHPEI) is developing the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project (the "Project"), a 1,000 MW underground and underwater high voltage, direct current ("HVDC") electric transmission facility extending from the United States border with Canada to Queens, New York; and

WHEREAS, CHPEI has advised the Putnam Town Board that the Project will supply clean, renewable hydroelectricity to New York State; and

WHEREAS, CHPEI has advised the Putnam Town Board that the Project has received both State and Federal approvals to proceed with the project; and

WHEREAS the Project route was originally located under the waters of Lake Champlain (the "Water Route"), extending through lower Lake Champlain (the "Original Putnam Routing"); and

WHEREAS, for a variety of practical and environmental reasons intended to decrease environmental impacts and improve constructability, CHPEI has determined that a portion of the Project is better suited to bypass and leave the original Water Route and continue underground through a portion of the Town of Putnam and other communities (“ Putnam Underground Route”) before re-entering the Water Route at some point further south of the Town of Putnam; and

WHEREAS, CHPEI has developed an alternate, proposed Underground Route in which the route of the electric transmission equipment departs the Water Route at the shoreline of Lake Champlain in the vicinity of County Route 3 in the Town of Putnam, then extending along County Route 3 for approximately one (1) mile, then turning south onto Lake Road, continuing for approximately two (2) miles, connecting with NYS Route 22 and continuing south approximately two (2) miles to the southern boundary of the Town of Putnam, continuing through the Town of Dresden and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the CHPEI advises the Town of Putnam that the Project will provide significant economic and environmental benefits to New York State in the form of lower electric rates, by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, creating jobs, including local jobs during the Project’s construction time; and

WHEREAS, CHPEI has indicated its intention to generate tax revenue, either directly or via allowable payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT), to the Town of Putnam, the Putnam Central School District and the County of Washington at such time the Project commences operation; and

WHEREAS; once construction of the Project commences, no services will be required of any Town of Putnam departments or from the Putnam Central School District; and

WHEREAS, CHPEI is seeking the endorsement of the Town of Putnam for the proposed alternate Putnam Underground Route; and

WHEREAS, CHPEI believes that endorsement of the alternate Putnam Underground Route by the Putnam Town Board is a key pre-requisite to obtaining all final Project permits and approvals from all authorities with jurisdiction over the Champlain Hudson Express Project;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

1. The Town Board of the Town of Putnam has been advised by CHPEI about the general scope of the Champlain Hudson Express Project and the proposed alternate underground routing of electric transmission equipment through the Town of Putnam and beyond.
2. The Town Board of the Town of Putnam understands that the proposed alternate underground route for the Project’s electric transmission equipment departs the original Water Route at the shoreline of Lake Champlain in the vicinity of County Route 3, extending along County Route 3 for approximately one (1) mile, then turning south onto Lake Road, continuing for approximately two (2) miles, connecting with NYS Route 22 and continuing south

approximately two (2) miles to the southern boundary of the Town of Putnam, continuing through the Town of Dresden and beyond.

3. The Town Board of the Town of Putnam hereby consents to the proposed alternative underground routing so that CHPEI may seek and obtain any and all permits and approvals for the proposed alternate underground routing plan through the Town of Putnam for the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project, and once obtained to enter the Town of Putnam for the purpose of planning, laying down, constructing, installing, repairing and maintaining its wires, conductors, conduits, equipment and other fixtures in and under the streets, roads, public parks and other places located in the Town of Putnam, County of Washington, and State of New York in accordance with the requirements of any and all of CHPEI's plans, amended and revised plans; subject to all federal, state, county and local approvals, permits, and authority; and further subject to the jurisdiction of any other county or state government entity with jurisdiction or authority over, under and across the proposed alternate underground route.
4. The Town Board of the Town of Putnam hereby authorizes and directs the Putnam Town Clerk to forward a certified copy of this resolution to Transmission Developers, Inc. at The Pieter Schuyler Building, 600 Broadway, Albany, New York 122907 to be included in the Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. application to amend its New York State Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need and any other or further required applications for amendments to the Federal Permits for the alternate underground route described hereinabove for the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project.
5. The terms of this resolution of the Putnam Town Board shall take effect immediately.

Resolution #51

Consent to support Champlain Hudson Power Express Project's alternative underground route

On motion of Councilman Darrell Wilson, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris;

Roll Call:

Greg Harris	Aye
Shirley Randall	Aye
Kevin Hart	Aye
Darrell Wilson	Aye
John LaPointe	Aye

All in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

Supervisor LaPointe read aloud a resolution in opposition to taxable New York State lands conversion to a PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes).

WHEREAS, State-owned lands are currently assessed by the local municipality where the State land is located, and

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo is proposing to convert the local assessment of taxable State-owned land into Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program based on existing tax amounts to be increased each year by the allowable levy growth factor, and

WHEREAS, said payment change will result in loss of local assessment of taxable State-owned as well as loss in tax revenue to local municipalities due to changes in the value not reflected in a PILOT agreement,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Putnam that the assessments of taxable state owned land should remain under control of the local municipality where such property is located and is hereby opposed to New York State converting the assessment of taxable State-owned land into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is authorized to forward a copy of said Resolution to the following persons:

Governor Andrew Cuomo
New York State Senator Elizabeth Little
New York State Assemblyman Daniel Stec

Resolution #52

Oppose taxable New York State Lands conversion to a PILOT

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilman Darrell Wilson;

Roll Call:

Greg Harris	Aye
Shirley Randall	Aye
Kevin Hart	Aye
Darrell Wilson	Aye
John LaPointe	Aye

All in favor, Resolution unanimously adopted.

Fire Department Committee Report (7:50)

Councilman Darrell Wilson reported the Committee had a meeting Monday March 5th, 2018. A number of topics were discussed; however they all fundamentally went back to the budget. The Firehouse is challenged at this time to have a comprehensive budget. There was discussion about how to understand

and plan going forward. The committee agreed to work together to refine a budget that would benefit the needs of the Firehouse and the community, for submission in August. The near term goal is to set up a budget.

Supervisor LaPointe distributed copies to the Board, for review, an email sent by resident Bert Windle regarding the work being done in Gull Bay. The body of the communication is as follows.

Fellow Members of the LCP,

The LCP has a water quality committee chaired by Mr. Peter Lehy who has questioned the Town Board along with committee member Mr. Coulter regarding the work at the Town Beach as well as the Boat Launch. Our impression was there no funds available for upgrading and dredging at this time.

I refer you to the attached minutes, the last item under resolution #44 which suggests dredging will commence in early April. The LCP recognizes the need for this dredging and upgrading of the beach area and commends the Town Board for timely action with regard to these matters. But we feel slighted as a community, that are input was not requested!

As a community and especially Gull Bay residents that have and are facing serious navigation issues due to the build up of sand and mud over the years. We must point out that the last attempt by the Town Board to dredge Gull Bay was a complete failure, especially to those that have water access on the South East side of the Bay!

We would like for the Town Board to discuss these matters with both Mr Lehy (Lgpal26@yahoo.com)

and Mr Coulter (coulterb@nycap.rr.com) at you earliest convenience. We believe this will not be helpful but necessary to provide the best possible results for the Town of Putnam.

The LCP

Supervisor LaPointe also discussed phase 3 of the New York State Broadband Program. Putnam has been awarded \$1,363,239 in funding which will address 379 locations in Putnam. The Town will NOT RECEIVE ANY OF THE MONEY; instead the funds will be distributed to broadband providers who will service Putnam. The three companies believed to be the recipients of the Putnam award are: Verizon, Hughes Net, and Slic Network Solutions. All of the information presented at the meeting came from the New York State Broadband Program Office website. <https://nysbroadband.ny.gov/phase-3-municipality>

Resolution #53

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board

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

Regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board adjourned at 8:01p.m.

March 8, 2018 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

John LaPointe _____ Supervisor

Darrell Wilson _____ Councilman

Kevin Hart _____ Councilman

Shirley Randall _____ Councilwoman

Greg Harris _____ Councilman