

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, May 8th, 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 Councilwoman Cathie Burke 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  
Councilwoman Cathie Burke

Others present:

Patricia Wilson (Town Clerk); Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Town Clerk); Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent), Bob Rudt, Cee McKenzie, Darlene Kerr, Peggy Moore and Robin McGrath.

**Resolution #63**

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2014 TOWN BOARD MEETING

On motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Randall the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Resolution #64**

ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2014

On motion of Councilwoman Burke, seconded by Councilman Harris the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Resolution #65**

ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2014

On motion of Councilwoman Burke, seconded by Councilman Hart the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Resolution #66**

PAY AUDITED BILLS

On motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilman Hart the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 5, Nays 0

RESOLVED that bills be paid on Abstract #5 in the following amounts:

General Account	# 102 - 130	\$ 12,954.26
Highway Account	# 74 - 95	\$ 24,538.14
Black Point Sewer District	# 4	\$ 12,182.50
Royal Anchorage	# 2	\$ 4,023.96
C/P Cummings Park	# 3	\$ 1,791.24

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### Town Law S 280-a- Open Development Area

Supervisor LaPointe received a letter from Attorney's Caffrey and Flowers, representing Donna and Jack Hammond who are adjoining property owners for the Whites. They have concerns about the ability of the road and a bridge that is located on the Heineman property, to survive the construction phase of the project. On behalf of the Hammonds, the attorney's are requesting that when the Town Board approves the Open Development Area for the Gull Bay Road extension, that it makes its approval conditional on;

1. The Whites making the improvements to the road that are recommended in the most recent version of the Gull Bay Road Extension, Road Improvement Analysis by Environmental Design Partnership.
2. The Whites repair or replace the bridge on the Heineman property, as recommended in the November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 "Gull Bay Bridge Condition Assessment" by M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying P.C., and
3. That these improvements shall be completed before the construction of the new road in the sub-division and any houses in the sub-division.

It was noted that this issue was discussed at a recent Planning Board meeting where the Whites attorney said that these conditions would be done prior to any construction.  
(See attached)

#### Sheila White Sub-division

Supervisor LaPointe received a letter from attorney's Little and O'Connor. These attorneys represent landowners, through whose land the Gull Bay Road Extension runs. The attorneys are concerned that the Whites continue to ask for extensions so that they will not be required to comply with the updated/new storm regulations. The attorneys point out numerous flaws in the extension road, such as;

- The road will not take the construction traffic and additional residential traffic.
- His clients have not given permission for improvements nor do they want improvements.
- A road analysis by the Chazen Company reports that the road is not code compliant in many respects.
- They are concerned about the tone of the communication from the Planning Board. It appears to pave the way for approval.
- The extension road is lacking drainage.
- There is inadequate width in many places.
- The applicant also ignores the issue of future maintenance of the road.

They are hoping to avoid further litigation, and they are asking the Town Board to take an independent hard look at the issue of access. (See attached)

Joan McDonald - Commissioner

Supervisor LaPointe read into the minutes, a letter sent to Honorable William L. Owens from Joan McDonald, thanking him for his letter conveying consistent concern on the part of Greg Harris, about the status of an upgrade rail crossing located on the D & H Canadian main-line, in the Town of Putnam, county of Washington. He explains that there was an administrative hearing on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010. The rail crossing groups have been working with the Town of Putnam and the rail company to progress the project and to meet the requirements issued as a result of the referenced hearing. The Town, C.P.Rail and NYS DOT have strived to avoid delays whenever possible.

In January of 2014, necessary construction materials were purchased. The rail company is making progress with a right-of-way needed to establish an easement that would provide access to private parcels adjacent to the new park. The rail company is expected to schedule construction activities this year. (See attached)

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

Gene Frost asked Supervisor LaPointe about the status of Peter Leyh. The Supervisor informed Mr. Frost that he hasn't met with Mr. Leyh at this time. The Supervisor will contact Mr. Leyh when he returns.

Mary Jane Dedrick informed the Board that Ed Raymond from Dresden, would like to place a notice on the Website, regarding a Town Wide Garage Sale on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The Supervisor and the Town Board had no problems with that. Darlene Kerr will see that the notice will be put on the website.

Robin McGrath has some concerns regarding the Boat Launch. She understands the importance of the boating regulations that is on going at the Boat Launch in Putnam, to prevent the spreading of invasive species in Lake George. She feels that the changes are big enough that everyone will feel the impact through the policies and new laws. She explains that recently she learned that the Boat Launch will be gated. She stated that she works late and she is concerned that they would not be able to return by the proposed 9PM time. She realizes that she could go to the Mossey Point boat launch, but that would be a big inconvenience when her home is only three miles away.

Peggy Moore has no problem with the program but she also is concerned about the proposed time of 9PM.

#### **PLANNING BOARD**

None

#### **HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway reports that all the roads have been swept. The crew has started the mowing and from there they will work on the ditching on the Gull Bay Road. The paving on the Gull Bay Road will also be started. Supervisor LaPointe asked the Highway Superintendent to trench a line over to the flag pole so that there can be a light installed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### Park Progress (Bid Progress, Power Company and RR Meeting)

Supervisor LaPointe reports that advertised bids for the Pavilion Project was extended until May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Pavilion will include a picnic area, town park and small carry on boat area. The bids will be opened next Thursday at 9AM. The Supervisor will meet with the Power Company and the Rail Road people on Tuesday at 9AM to discuss the power going from the lower road across the tracks to the park. "Everything is moving along."

##### Town Hall

Supervisor LaPointe is going to contact someone to paint the Town Hall.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *The White Goods Pick Up*

Pick up will be held the second week in July on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Resolution #67**

#### **CHANGE JUNE MEETING DATE**

On motion of Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Harris, the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 5, Nays 0

Resolved, that the June 2014 Town Board Meeting will be held on Thursday June 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 at the Putnam Town Hall at 7PM.

### *Boat Launch*

The Supervisor read aloud a notice that was in the times of Ti, about the Boat Launch in Putnam.

The Town of Putnam is joining the rest of the towns on Lake George in an effort to control the invasive species entering the lake. Our Launch will be gated starting May 17<sup>th</sup> and will be manned from May 17<sup>th</sup>, tentively till October 1<sup>st</sup>. Hours of operation will be roughly, daylight to dark, 6AM to 9PM, seven days a week. A 2014 Putnam Resident Sticker will be required, which will be available at the Putnam Town Clerks Office. This ticket must be tagged and put on the window of your boat. Boats must be tagged as a frozen or newly inspected boat, to be completed at Ticonderoga Mossey Point Boat Launch, Huletts or Rogers Rock campsite. The Putnam Town Board is trying to make the transition as painless as possible. Supervisor LaPointe points out that this is a work in progress and subject to change. "We welcome any idea that would enhance the program."

A lengthy discussion followed with many questions asked and answers given. Robin talked about an honor system and feels that to her it doesn't feel right. The Supervisor wants it to be user friendly, but he does have a problem with people that don't belong there. Councilman Hart feels that over the summer, we have to come up with ideas to make it work affordably for the Town. "This is just the first step." Supervisor LaPointe points out that if the Town of Putnam doesn't do everything you can to keep the launch open and protect Lake George, the state will come in and close it. Glenburnie is not open except for emergency. Robin feels that any way you look at it, it's not a simple fix. Sometimes great things come by sharing ideas.

On motion of Councilwoman Burke, seconded by Councilman Harris to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted \_\_\_\_\_ Patricia Wilson,  
Town Clerk.

John LaPointe \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor

Greg Harris \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman

Shirley Randall \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman

Cathie Burke \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman

Kevin Hart \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman