

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, July 9th, 2009

At 7:00PM the regular meeting of the Putnam Town Board was opened and began by auditing the bills, Supervisors monthly report and the Town Clerks monthly report. Councilwoman Greg Harris opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following members present:

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

Others present: Patricia Wilson (Town clerk); Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent); Chris Navitsky (Lake George Water keeper); Galen Seerup (Planning Board Chairman); Cee McKenzie, Ed Kingsley, Jack Aiken, Joe Blood, Bob Rudt, Jim Parslow, Tracey Parslow, Gary Smith, Dan Hunter, George Babelak, Alicia McKinney, Peter Leyh, Wayne Busby, Alex & Ellie Coulter, Bob Coulter, Burt Windle, Charlie Granger and Norm Bishop.

Resolution #40

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2009 MEETING

On motion of Councilman Greg Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Cathie Burke the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the June 2009 meeting be approved.

Resolution #41

ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE 2009

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilwoman ShirleyRandall the resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Resolution #42

ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE 2009

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris, the resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays

Resolution #43

PAY AUDITED BILLS

On motion of Councilman Kevin Hart, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris, the following resolution was: ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays 0

Resolved that the bills be paid on Abstract #7 in the following amounts;

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| General Account | # 147 - 167 | \$10,376.16 |
| Highway Account | # 108 - 117 | \$ 1,984.63 |

Resolved that bills be paid on Abstract #5 to the following account in the below amounts;

| | | |
|----------------------------|------|-------------|
| Black Point Sewer District | # 14 | \$20,501.00 |
|----------------------------|------|-------------|

CORRESPONDANCE

Supervisor LaPointe received a letter that was sent to Tom Cunningham (engineer in charge of Black Point Sewer District) from Mr. Theodore (see attached). Supervisor LaPointe explains that Mr. Theodore refuses to sign an easement and he was told by the attorney that he would be required to hook up to the pump when it is put in the town right of way. Mr. Theodore can not put his own pump down by his house because all the pumps have to be uniform in the two districts (Town of Putnam and Town of Ticonderoga). Mr. Theodore has received correspondence from the Town Attorney.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Ed Kingsley is here to discuss a recent storm that washed out their road. He explains that the problem is caused by the culvert on the corner of Lake Ferry Road. Mr. Kingsley presented the town board with pictures of the damaged road which happened all in one day. The pictures showed the erosion caused by the storm surge, down the sides of the road.

Jack Aiken believes that the problem was started when the old 24 inch culvert was pulled out and replaced by an 18 inch culvert. It was determined that the old culvert was removed about 12 years ago. Supervisor LaPointe explained that the road was abandoned in January 2007.

Joe Blood points out that the issue is not so much the ownership of the road. It is that the culvert is an inadequate size for the drainage problem. A lengthy discussion followed about the conditions of the road and proposed solutions to the problem. Councilman Hart asked what the group was looking for the Town to do? They would like safe access to their property and to

where the railroad says it is safe. Councilman Hart asked “are you looking for us to replace the culvert at the top of the driveway and repair the road all the way down to the track to a safe condition?” They are asking for the Towns cooperation. It was decided that Supervisor LaPointe will have the County Engineer come up to assess the conditions. Supervisor LaPointe pointed out that it will be a one time even because it is not a public road, but because we had an inadequate culvert, we do bear some responsibility.” Mr. Kingsley, Mr. Aiken and Joe Blood have asked that they be notified when the engineer comes up so that they can be here. They left their individual phone numbers so that they could be contacted. Councilman Hart stated that “the Town will get a cost analysis of what it will be so that they don’t assume that we are going to put a whole bunch of money in there, but we will bring it up to a standard you can travel on.”

Wayne Busby presented Supervisor LaPointe with a preliminary estimate for the construction of a new Town Hall (see attached). Supervisor LaPointe assures Mr. Busby that if anything is going to be done, “the present Town Hall is not going anywhere under his watch.” He will review the estimate and discuss it further with Mr. Busby.

Chris Navitsky (Lake George Water keeper) is concerned about the storm water run off at the Royal Anchorage Subdivision site. He is concerned that a situation is occurring that is impacting the lake. He is suggesting that a meeting be set up by concerned parties to discuss the current situation and how things can be improved before they impact the subdivision and the lake. He points out that the project still has a site that is not completely stabilized. Supervisor LaPointe explains that the DEC has approved the system and the Contractor will address and correct the problem. Supervisor LaPointe realizes that there are problems but they are not being ignored.

Robert Rudt has a letter from the Planning Board as a result of the meeting last night. It was brought to the attention of the Planning Board of a violation of storm water run off at Royal Anchorage. “We know this has in fact resulted in fines in the past and has caused a burden to fall on the tax payers of Putnam.” Supervisor LaPointe states “this is incorrect, we didn’t pay the fines.” “The Royal Anchorage Association and the contractor paid a \$5000 fine at \$2500 a piece.” Mr. Rudt says that the word they got back yesterday was that “the first time you got away with \$5000, but the next time it will be \$25,000, and who is going to pay that one?” Supervisor LaPointe said that “the Association will pay it.” “These are private roads.” Mr. Rudt states that “as a board we feel frustrated and we are going to review these site plans as each house comes along.” Supervisor LaPointe states that this is what we want you to do, this letter is incorrect because it isn’t taxpayers’ money.” Mr. Rudt apologized for being inaccurate in some of the facts. Supervisor LaPointe pointed out that the problems are being addressed by Bombard, who is the contractor. “The board is holding contingency money until it is completed to the satisfaction of the engineers.”

LEGAL

None

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway reports that the crew has been busy paving .6 miles on the Gull Bay Road as some paving on the Best Road, until the machine broke down. This fall we

will be working on the Black Point Road. He also reports that the White Goods Pick-Up went well. He explains that the estimate to repair the old backhoe is \$36,000. He has spoken to representatives regarding a new backhoe and it would cost approximately \$59,100. The board discussed that matter further and it was decided that a new unit should be purchased.

Resolution #44

AUTHORIZE SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS GARY TREADWAY TO PURCHASE A 2009 CASE BACKHOE

On motion of Councilwoman Shirley Randall, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris, the resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays 0

RESOLVED that Superintendent of Highways Gary Treadway be given authorization to purchase a 2009 Case Backhoe for the Town of Putnam Highway Department.

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Rudi (Planning Board Member) reports that last night they started Buster Granger's process all over again. They found four issues lacking;

1. No APA permit.
2. The septic system was raised as an issue in terms of its dimensions, setbacks and actual location.
3. The trailer became an issue in terms of there is no HUD sticker, the alternative solution was to do an electrical inspection.
4. This issue was dimension map of the property since it is relatively a small sliver of land bordered on one side by the state road and two sides by town roads.

"Buster hasn't been forthcoming in giving us the data that we asked for."

There was a second Public Hearing for Peter and Ellen Smith's, who are building a guest house. "The only qualification is that we need to check the septic system."

Mr. Craney is doing some remodeling and renovations which do not fall under our jurisdiction.

Mr. Grennon on Beach Lane was operating on the misconception that the house that he is re-building has to be exactly the same as the house that was there.

Galen Seerup (Planning Board Chairman) reported that the board didn't take any action on Buster Granger's application last night. We have up to 45 days to make a decision, which gives the applicant a chance to fill out the proper paperwork.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Internet Service in the Town Clerk's Office

Supervisor LaPointe made the board aware of the need for internet service in the Town Clerk's office. Due to changes with the DEC and their licensing system, a dedicated phone line and internet service was required to continue to make DEC licenses available to the public.

Noise Ordinance

Supervisor LaPointe has asked someone to look into noise ordinance policy in some of the surrounding towns. He will report back as to the findings.

Beach Life Guards

Supervisor LaPointe reports that one Life Guard at the Gull Bay beach will be watching the launching of boats on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The boat launch tickets will be made available through the life guards.

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart to Adjourn the regular meeting at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted, _____ Patricia Wilson, Town Clerk

John LaPointe _____ Supervisor

Greg Harris _____ Councilman

Shirley Randall _____ Councilwoman

Cathie Burke _____ Councilwoman

Kevin Hart _____ Councilman