

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, March 12th, 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. Supervisor John LaPointe 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); Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Town Clerk); Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent); Chris Navitsky (Lake George Watershed); Bob Rudt, Cee McKenzie, Gary Smith, Wayne Busby & Bob Coulter.

Resolution #15

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2009 MEETING

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of February 2009 meeting be approved.

Resolution #16

ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2009

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

Resolution #17

ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2009

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

Resolution #18

PAY AUDITED BILLS

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

Resolved that the bills be paid on Abstract #3 in the following amounts;

General Account	# 48 – 66	\$9,848.26
Highway Account	# 32 - 53	\$15,143.17
Royal Anchorage Sewer District #	3	\$8,372.05

Resolved that bills be paid on Abstract #2 to the following account in the below amounts;

Black Point Sewer District	#6 – 7	\$70.45
----------------------------	--------	---------

CORRESPONDANCE

None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Chris Navitsky of the Lake George Watershed presented Supervisor LaPointe with a list of different costs for towns around the watershed on the Site Plan Review and Sub-division (etc) application fees.

LEGAL

None

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Gary Treadway reports that they used about 80% of the salt and the stockpile during the winter. The signs will be put up tomorrow on the town roads, informing the public that the roads will be closed to vehicles that are over the limit. “We are planning to do some sweeping on the roads soon.” Superintendent Treadway also reported that the trip to the Association of Towns meeting was “informative, very helpful, he met a lot of people and got a lot of ideas and actually learned something.”

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Rudt (Planning Board Member) reports that there was a Public Hearing a week ago on the Jamie Reale sub-division which was approved. There was also six Site Plan Reviews approved. Supervisor LaPointe reports that he had a call from the Planning Board Clerk informing him that Planning Board Chairman Galen Seerup was considering having a Public Hearing for every building permit application. Mr. Rudt explains that they have asked the Town Attorney what the correct procedure is and was told that they should have a Public Hearing especially for the Type II permit in which a neighbor has a complaint. Supervisor LaPointe points out that there would be an added expense to the taxpayer. Supervisor LaPointe asked the board for their point of view. Councilman Harris feels that common sense should prevail unless a neighbor has a legitimate complaint. Mr. Rudt shared that “we will err on the side of caution.”

OLD BUSINESS

Royal Anchorage Sewer System

Supervisor LaPointe will put a call through to "Moot" about testing the Royal Anchorage system in two or three weeks.

Black Point Sewer District

Supervisor LaPointe expects that the Black Point Sewer District will be done by early summer. Councilman Hart asked what type of road work will need to be done? Highway Superintendent Treadway reports that a lot of the ditching has been done. He will check on the paving and Supervisor LaPointe will check with Willy Grimmke.

NEW BUSINESS

Life Guards

Supervisor LaPointe reports that there is one vacancy and he has received three applications. Councilman Harris and Councilwoman Burke will meet with the applicants. Supervisor LaPointe will notify the applicants.

LGPC Draft Stream Corridor Regulations

Supervisor LaPointe attended the *LGPC Draft Stream Corridor Regulations* meeting recently and reported that there were some pro's and a lot of con's. Supervisor LaPointe feels that the regulations are calling for too much of a land grab. "150 feet on each side of the stream." It is his understanding that any water that runs thirty days a year is considered a stream. Mr. Navitsky (Lake George Waterkeeper) stated "they do not have a definition." A discussion followed between the Supervisor and the Board Members to which they concurred that they are opposed to the Draft Stream Lake George Park Commission proposal.

Resolution #19

TOWN OF PUTNAM OPPOSED TO THE CURRENT DRAFT STREAM LAKE GEORGE PARK COMMISSION PROPOSAL

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris, the following resolution (see attached) was ADOPTED by roll call;

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

Town of Putnam
Resolution #19 of 2009
Opposed to the Current Draft Stream Lake George
Park Commission Proposes

***Resolution introduced by Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by
Councilman Greg Harris***

WHEREAS, the Putnam Town Board respectfully opposes the current draft Stream Corridor Regulations proposed by the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC); and

WHEREAS, there were no Town Public Hearings scheduled by the LGPC; and;

WHEREAS, there was no attempt to have a public hearing scheduled where seasonal residents could attend; and

WHEREAS, there is no scientific documentations supporting the need for this regulations, and

WHEREAS, the LGPC has not considered the alternatives to remedy the perceived problem; and

WHEREAS, the LGPC has not consulted with this town government that is elected to represent the citizens who will be adversely affected by the proposed regulation, therefore circumventing the citizens of this community, and

WHEREAS, the LGPC has not properly notified all property owners of the potential impacts to other land -investments; and

WHEREAS, the regulations as written are vague and complex placing an unnecessary burden on the property owner; and

WHEREAS, there are existing laws and permitting processes protecting these resources and this an unnecessary action by the LGPC; and

WHEREAS, the LGPC has failed to "encourage, cooperate with, aid and assist municipalities lying wholly or partially within the Lake George Park in the preparation and adoption of zoning laws or ordinances and other local legislation prohibiting, restricting, regulating or controlling the uses of real property".

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town of Putnam is opposed to the LGPC Draft Stream Corridor Regulation. ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYES 0

Annual Association Meeting

Supervisor LaPointe comments on his attendance to the Annual Town Association Meeting, stating that he feels the meetings are interesting and worthwhile. He would also like to see more of the board members attend. Supervisor LaPointe informed the board that he was elected First Vice President of the Association.

Tax Exempt Request – Ticonderoga (Real Property Tax Law406)

Supervisor LaPointe informed the board that the Town of Ticonderoga has asked June Manicek (Town Assessor) to exempt Ticonderoga Beach property, (which is in the Town of Putnam) from paying taxes. Supervisor LaPointe remarks that, “that is not something that they are able to do.” Supervisor LaPointe passed out a copy of McKinney’s Consolidated Laws of New York, (Real Property Tax Law) to the board members. Supervisor LaPointe also read a portion as follows;

“Real property owned by a municipal corporation not within its corporate limits while used for the provision of fire protection services provided that some fire protection services are available to the municipal corporation in which the real property is located, for a public park, public aviation field, highway or for flood control and soil conservation purposes as provided in section two hundred twenty-three of the county law shall be exempt from taxation by any municipal corporation in which it is located, provided the governing board thereof shall so agree in writing.”

The Supervisor went on to say that the Town Board would have to agree to the tax exempt status. Councilman Hart remembers that Ticonderoga tried to do this years ago and the Town of Putnam denied their request.

A lengthy discussion was held about the Planning Board increasing the fees for building, site plan review, sewer, etc. applications. Wayne Busby agrees that fees should be raised but asks that the board be realistic.

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart to Adjourn the regular meeting at 8:02PM.

Respectfully submitted, _____ Patricia Wilson, Town Clerk

John LaPointe _____ Supervisor

Greg Harris _____ Councilman

Shirley Randall _____ Councilwoman

Cathie Burke _____ Councilwoman

Kevin Hart _____ Councilman