

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, November 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. Councilwoman Shirley Randall 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); Bob Rudt, Peter Leyh and Bert Windle.

Resolution #63

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2009 MEETING

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 3, Nays 0.

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

Resolution #64

ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2009

On motion of Councilwoman Shirley Randall, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris the resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 3, Nays 0.

Resolution #65

ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2009

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart, the resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 3, Nays

Resolution #66

PAY AUDITED BILLS

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilwoman Shirley Randall, the following resolution was: **ADOPTED.** Ayes 4, Nays 0

Resolved that the bills be paid on Abstract #11 in the following amounts;

General Account	# 251 - 273	\$9,867.20
Highway Account	# 181 - 190	\$7,635.28
Black Point Sewer District	# 20 - 22	\$54,195.81
Royal Anchorage	# 8	\$ 375.00

CORRESPONDANCE

Supervisor LaPointe gave each member of the board, a copy of a letter from the Ticonderoga Town Board. They are requesting a meeting with the Putnam Town Board to discuss the beach tax exemption. Supervisor LaPointe read the letter and discussed their request. It was decided that Supervisor LaPointe would answer their letter denying their request and explain that the Putnam Town Board would prefer to meet with the new Ticonderoga Board after they are seated in January 2010, to address their concern. (See letter attached)

Supervisor LaPointe received a letter from the Board of Trustees of the Black Watch Library, thanking the Town of Putnam for their \$1500.00 donation that was given to help support their Library. (See attached)

Supervisor LaPointe also received a letter from the La Berge Group, explaining their progress on the status of the issues related to the 2007 grant that was awarded to the Lake Champlain Waterfront Access and Park. They are requesting an agreement with the town, enabling them to assist the Town with the issue regarding the modification of the crossing. They propose to work on an hourly basis at a rate of \$95 per hour, plus expenses to undertake any assistance the town requests, until the crossing issue is resolved. (See attached)

2010 County Tax

Supervisor LaPointe gave each of the board members a copy of how the County Tax dollars will be spent in the 2010 budget. It shows a list of expenses broken down into percentages, then into County Tax dollars and exactly what is spent on each department. Supervisor LaPointe is asking that everyone look it over and if there are any questions, he will answer them later. (See attached)

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Treadway reports that the paving and shimming is all done on Best Road and Sagamore. The Ferry Road was repaved by the State and they also did some ditching and a culvert was put in by the railroad tracks. The Town put in the upper culvert. They have also been ditching and capping a few culverts on the Black Point Road. All culverts around the Town are being cleaned out.

Peter Leyh asked if there was any way that a double line could be put on the Gull Bay Road as a safety factor. He also asked if Supervisor LaPointe had heard back from Mr. Eliopoulos. Supervisor LaPointe answered that he had a brief conversation with Mr. Eliopoulos and he does not want anyone on his property. Mr. Leyh asked if Mr. Eliopoulos realized the seriousness of the problem. Mr. Leyh feels that Mr. Eliopoulos will be held responsible if any serious problems occur. Mr. Leyh will report this information back to the Lake George Association. Mr. Leyh will also speak to Nancy Williams from the Nature Conservancy about the litter area at the jumping rock. He feels that they are polluting the lake and he is asking if there is any way they can have a moratorium against these people from buying anymore property in our town. Mr. Leyh will "take the initiative to try to stop the Conservancy from buying anymore property in our town".

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Rudt (Planning Board Member) reports that there was a Public Hearing for a 2-lot sub division for Ray Frued on Link Way, which was approved.

There was an issue of Ed Hunters motor home that he wants to put on his lot in Gull Bay. According to the Town Attorney (John Brietenbach) the issue is not so much that he can put the motor home there, but there are covenants in the deed that refrain him to do that. Mr. Hunter maintains that there aren't any covenants in his deed. Mr. Hunter will have to provide the documents to the Planning Board.

Ed Grennon from Beach Lane has a lot that is 100 feet deep by 125 feet, which is hard to put a well and septic system in place. Mr. Grennon was asked to get an engineer, which he has done.

Mike and Marty Anderson's sub division has been approved by the APA

Mr. Rudt reports that after the issues were resolved, there was a working session with the Town Attorney answering questions. The primary issue was, "at what point do we have the right to ask about an applicant's septic system". "Building a doghouse? No". Putting a shed in the back

yard? Probably not". "Putting on a small porch in front of the house?" Supervisor LaPointe answered that these issues were the Code Enforcements job. Mr. Rudt explained that they would be part of a Site Plan Review, and that the Town Attorney informed them that "it's in the Site Plan regs, it's defined that it is within our authority to challenge septic at any point". Supervisor LaPointe explained that "you would use the Code Enforcement Officer to do that, none of you people are certified to do that". Further discussion followed about other issues to which the Town Attorney explained that these issues are all subject to Site Plan Review/

OLD BUSINESS

Putnam Park

Supervisor LaPointe reports that Councilman Harris and himself have met with Senator Little, a legal representative from the Railroad, Deputy Commissioner from Parks and Recreation and Kathy Jetson. He feels that it was a good meeting and that they made some progress. Peter Ray from the DOT talked to Supervisor LaPointe about possibly funding the mechanical crossing. Everyone has agreed to meet with the judge, including Senator Little. "The grant has to be renewed this month".

Burt Windle is asking what the major stumbling block is. Supervisor LaPointe pointed out that the property was appraised and the Land Department of the Parks and Recreation wouldn't accept the appraisal because they said it was a private farm crossing now and that it was not worth what it was appraised for. "So that was what the meeting was about". "They have to be assured that it is going to be a public crossing".

Flu Clinic

Supervisor LaPointe reports that there will be no Flu Clinic this year because there is no serum.

Noise Ordinance

Councilman Harris reported that he had reviewed the sample *Noise Ordinance*, and upon doing so, was not in agreement with it. Having discussed the matter at great lengths and detail, the board will consider recommendations and will continue to look further into possible legal options. As part of the ongoing effort to enforce this matter, Supervisor LaPointe will contact the Washington County Sheriff to discuss the situation further.

NEW BUSINESS

Sales Tax Collection

Supervisor LaPointe explained that we receive money from the sales tax collection in the County. Our portion would be approximately \$32,000.00.

Resolution #67

WASHINGTON COUNTY SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAX ALLOCATION

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

Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Putnam electing direct payment of Washington County Sales and Compensating Use Tax Allocation. (See attached detailed resolution)

EPF Parks Grant

The Town Board of the Town of Putnam agrees to obtain the services of the La Berge Group.

Resolution #68

CONTRACT WITH THE LA BERGE GROUP

On motion of Councilman Harris, Seconded by Councilwoman Randall the following resolution was ADOPTED; Ayes 4, Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam does agree to hire the La Berge Group to work on an hourly basis at a rate of \$95 per hour plus expenses, to undertake any assistance the Town may request until the crossing issue is resolved.

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart to Adjourn the regular meeting at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted, _____ Patricia Wilson, Town Clerk

John LaPointe _____ Supervisor

Greg Harris _____ Councilman

Shirley Randall _____ Councilwoman

Cathie Burke _____ Councilwoman

Kevin Hart _____ Councilman