

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, October 8th, 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 Cathie Burke 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 Water keeper); Bob Rudt, Cee McKenzie, Gary Smith, Al Coulter, Ellie Coulter, Bert Windle, Gene Frost, Ed Monda, Dave Lindstrom and Chris Grill.

Resolution #57

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 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 September 2009 meeting be approved.

Resolution #58

ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

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

Resolution #59

ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

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

Resolution #60

PAY AUDITED BILLS

On motion of Councilman Kevin Hart, seconded by Councilwoman Shirley Randall, the following resolution was: ADOPTED. Ayes 3, Nays 0

Resolved that the bills be paid on Abstract #10 in the following amounts;

General Account	# 221 - 250	\$17,230.17
Highway Account	# 156 - 180	\$13,048.94
Black Point Sewer District	# 18	\$13,414.00

CORRESPONDANCE

None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Chris Grill of Schwerdtfeger Road is here to find out if there is a noise issue in the town? He would like to add his voice with others that might be complaining. Mr. Grill explains that he lives on Schwerdtfeger Road and a few months ago, some new neighbors moved in and his life hasn't been the same. He believes the noise is coming from the Black Point Area. The noise (music) starts at about 6AM and continues with the boom boom sound throughout the day. Mr. Grill has no problem with people having an occasional party, but "when it happens every day it is spoiling my quality of life." Supervisor LaPointe informed Mr. Grill that he has received a copy of the Ticonderoga Noise Ordinance (a copy was passed to the members of the board for their review). They will discuss their suggestions at next month's board meeting.

Bert Windle of Sagamore Road informed the board that he was asked by the lake members on the Black Point Road to bring to the boards' attention that there is a problem with the 911 response, and the residents feel something should be done. He is asking that a committee be formed to see if they could possibly get fire response through Ticonderoga rather than Washington County. Gene Frost, Dave Lindstrom and Ed Monda (all residents of Black Point) have cited different incidents that have occurred when 911 were called. Supervisor LaPointe believes that the calls go to Essex County and they in turn contact Washington County. Supervisor LaPointe will check with Bill Cook (Director of Emergency Services) to see if there is a better way to route the emergency calls so that there will be no further confusion.

Dave Lindstrom of Black Point Road asked Highway Superintendent Treadway about the paving schedule for the Black Point Road. Superintendent Treadway explained that they had planned to some shimming, but due to delays, have decided to wait till spring. He further explained that there is a punch list and on that list are house numbers where the caps are higher and they will need more binder put around them. Ed Monda informed Superintendent Treadway that there are relief valves that are below grade (4 to 5 inch holes) and they need to be brought up to level. The Highway Superintendent explained that they plan on putting risers in to bring them up to level.

Resolution #61

MOVE TO SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

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

RESOLVED that this meeting be interrupted to hold a Public Hearing advertised and scheduled for this evening at 7:30PM.

PUBLIC HEARING – Town Budget 2010

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:30PM

Supervisor LaPointe opened the meeting by explaining changes;

General Fund portion 3% raise.

Highway Fund portion 5% raise (which was built into the Teamsters contract)

Planning Board, members to receive a \$50 raise per meeting for a total of \$600 per year/member.

Planning Board Chairman will receive \$1000.

The assessed value of the Town of Putnam dropped \$736,000. Most of this decrease is attributed to the Lake George Land Conservancy. Currently the last acquisition totaled 5.529 million dollars of tax exempt property that the Lake George Land Conservancy owns, which is about 5% of the total assessed value of the Town. That affects the taxpayers. “When everything is said and done, the tax rate is roughly 4.59%.” “If we didn’t have all that exempt property, the tax rate would be about .009%.”

Bert Windle asked if the Town Justice fines go to the town or to the state. Supervisor LaPointe explained that the monies go to the state and a small portion comes back to the town. Mr. Windle inquired “does it cover the expense of the court?” Supervisor LaPointe answered no. Mr. Windle also questioned the increase in the Dog/Animal Control expense from \$600 to \$1400? Supervisor LaPointe explained that the increase was added into the budget in anticipation.

Bob Coulter asks the Supervisor if “when the Land Conservancy sells their land to the state, will we see a decrease in our taxes?” Supervisor LaPointe explained that when the state buys the property they pay taxes at a much deflated rate.

Bob Rudt asked the Supervisor about a big change on page 14 of the budget. Supervisor LaPointe explained in depth about the different numbers. The Workman's Compensation calculations have not been figured in. It is figured separately. A lengthy discussion followed with questions asked and answered.

There were no others that wished to comment at this time. The Public Hearing was closed at 8:04PM.

RETURN TO COURTESY OF THE BOARD

Bob Rudt inquired as to whether someone was cleaning up the Gull Bay Road? Superintendent Treadway explained that they make their rounds picking things up.

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Treadway reports that the shoulders on Gull Bay Road are done. They are scheduled to pave on Best Road next week, then they will begin to shim Sagamore Road.

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Rudt (Planning Board Member) reports that there was no meeting this week. There will be a meeting next week. He reports that there are two violations in progress. The owner has received notice that he has to attend the Planning Board meeting next week.

OLD BUSINESS

Putnam Park

Supervisor LaPointe has spoken to Senator Little and she would like a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Departments legal people. Supervisor LaPointe will contact Senator Little tomorrow.

Noise Ordinance

Supervisor LaPointe will gather more information from other towns.

Wrights Ferry Road

Supervisor LaPointe reports that a meeting was held between himself, Highway Superintendent Treadway, Councilman Harris, the DOT, a Parks and Recreation representative and the surrounding land owners that live on the road in question. At this time, they continue to work on the issues.

NEW BUSINESS

Flue Clinic

Supervisor LaPointe continues to work with the county on a date for the annual flu clinic.

Resolution #62

ADOPT 2010 TOWN BUDGET

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

Adopted by roll call:	Supervisor John LaPointe	AYE
	Councilman Kevin Hart	AYE
	Councilman Greg Harris	AYE
	Councilwoman Cathie Burke	AYE
	Councilwoman Shirley Randall	AYE

RESOLVED that the Putnam Town Board has agreed to adopt the 2010 Town Budget.

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Kevin Hart to Adjourn the regular meeting at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted, _____ Patricia Wilson, Town Clerk

John LaPointe _____ Supervisor

Greg Harris _____ Councilman

Shirley Randall _____ Councilwoman

Cathie Burke _____ Councilwoman

Kevin Hart _____ Councilman