

## **Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Putnam, March 11th, 2010**

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. Councilman Kevin Hart 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  
Councilwoman Cathie Burke  
Councilman Greg Harris  
Councilwoman Shirley Randall

Others present: Patricia Wilson (Town Clerk); Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent); Bob Rudt, Cee McKenzie, Wayne Busby, Sy Cramer, Ed Kingsley, Joe Blood, Jack Aiken and Peter Leyh.

### **Resolution #43**

#### **ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2010 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 February 2010 meeting be approved with the following corrections. Councilman Kevin Hart was listed as present and absent, he was absent. Councilman Greg Harris and Councilwoman Shirley Randall were not listed at all, and they were both present.

### **Resolution #44**

#### **ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2010**

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

### **Resolution #45**

#### **ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERKS MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2010**

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

**Resolution #46**

**PAY AUDITED BILLS**

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

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

General Account	# 46 - 77	\$88,359.04
Highway Account	# 36 - 48	\$15,855.09

Black Point Sewer District Abstract #3

Black Point	# 5 - 6	\$4,082.15
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**CORRESPONDANCE**

None

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

*Ed Kingsley of Ferry Road* is here to bring the board up to date about some problems they are having. He reports that the Railroad offered them a crossing for \$250,000.00, but they just "can't swing it". They were also offered a pedestrian only crossing. Signs would have to be posted saying private road only. The railroad sent them a contract which included conditions such as a five million dollar policy with no cap, responsibility for all licenses required, and a lengthy list of other requirements. "They want us to be the Sheriff of Ferry Lane." He points out that "there is a ton of people going down there, and it is very dangerous." They recently found out that someone else owns the road before the tracks. Mr. Kingsley presented a map to the board and pointed out that the road prevents them from crossing the tracks. "We don't have any legal access to the road, so even if we wanted to enter into the contract, we couldn't do it." "The owner does not wish to sell it and he doesn't want anyone trespassing." They report that there is another problem, and that is that the railroad intends to rip the crossing out. They are asking the board to consider reinstating the road. "The railroad said they would put a New York Crossing there for free." They feel that this would solve the problems for the seven families and other problems that may show up with the town people using it. Councilman Hart points out that the landowner would have to request that it be reinstated. Mr. Kingsley explained that the landowner doesn't want the liability. Supervisor LaPointe agrees that "the landowner needs to pursue it." Councilman Hart explains that "he needs to supply us with a letter of intent and make the other owners aware of what is going on."

## **HIGHWAY**

Superintendent Treadway reports that the roads will be posted Monday. Wood cutting continues on Liddle Harris Road. He plans to start sweeping the roads in two weeks. He points out that the Association of Towns trip was really worthwhile. "I learned quite a bit."

## **PLANNING BOARD**

*Robert Rudt* (Planning Board Member) informs the board that there was a full house last night.

There was a Public Hearing on Rich Caulder's home, where they are planning on doing some major remodeling. He states that "there are no particular issues but there are some concerns for site disturbances." He explains that contractor Wayne Busby will do a storm water management program in lieu of sending their plans to the Lake George Park Commission, which seems to satisfy the board. He states that "one item of note worth mentioning is that there will be a new type of septic system called a peat moss system." Mr. Rudt explains how the system is built and that the system may offer alternatives for people down the road. Councilman Hart asked if the leech field was shortened. Mr. Rudt explained that "this system will increase the space you will need for a leech field; however some revisions are in the works on the New York State regulations which may allow for the shortening of laterals if you have this type of filter. He goes on to say that according to Chris Navitsky, they are talking 25 to 33% reductions in the size of laterals.

### *White's Subdivision*

Mr. Rudt explained that the property is at the extreme end of Gull Bay Road on the South side is 60 acres of undeveloped property. The owners are planning a 6 lot sub-division. He states that "the obvious issue is access." The property is located on a private road and regulation states that sub-division has to be on a town road access.

Mr. Rudt pointed out that there are a couple of trailers in Putnam that have to be moved. Both owners will be sent a letter directing them to move the trailer by the first of the month.

Councilman Harris asked Supervisor LaPointe to find out if the Planning Board could hold their summer meetings at the school. Supervisor LaPointe will contact the Principal.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### *Park Progress*

Supervisor LaPointe reports that he is preparing to go in front of the Law Judge. At this time no date has been set. Supervisor LaPointe will ask Senator Little to attend along with Assemblyman Jordan, Pete Ray and representatives from Parks and Recreation. He has all the "new maps with site distances going north and south on the railroad." Wayne Busby asked if the town owns the property. Supervisor LaPointe explained that "we have a contract to buy the property and as long as we get all the necessary approvals, it is a done deal." Councilman Harris explains that

they had a meeting with Senator Little because the Parks and Recreation agreement had expired. Supervisor LaPointe explained that “the agreement has been renewed.” He also explained that they wouldn’t accept the appraisal because it was a farm crossing appraisal and we had it appraised as a public crossing.” Parks and Recreation is waiting for the judge to approve the crossing before they free up the funds.

#### Town of Putnam Property Tax Exemption Impact

Supervisor LaPointe explained to the board that right now the War Combat exempt levels for the town is up to \$80,000 and exempt amount is \$279,355. The exempt levels for the county are up to \$200,000 and the exempt amount is \$549,008. The aged exempt amount is currently \$168,885 and the exempt amount for the county is \$323,064. The netted impact would be from \$168,885 to \$323,064 if we raise the town to the county level for the aged. The netted impact would be from \$279,355 to \$549,008 if we raise the town to the county level for the War Combat. He points out that the amount would be about double what it is now. He is asking the board to “give it some thought.” The total exempts at the present is 35 for War Combat and 10 for the Aged.

#### Award by the Historical Association

Supervisor LaPointe announces that the Historical Association is going to present an award to the Senior Citizen Group and the Presbyterian Church for their work they have done on the old school. This event will take place in May.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Resolution #47**

#### **ACCEPT THE SUPERVISORS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009**

On motion of Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilwoman Burke, the Resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays 0

#### 2010 Lifeguards

Supervisor LaPointe reports that four lifeguards will be coming back.

#### Town Hall Bell

Supervisor LaPointe explains that he has been considering moving the Town Hall Bell somewhere it can be viewed. He is concerned about its safety in this building. The bell is a rare Meneely Bell and Supervisor LaPointe assured the board that it would be placed in a secure place if they decided to move it.

Old Barn Conversion

A discussion was held between Supervisor LaPointe and the board about perhaps moving the town offices into the old barn building. Councilman Harris doesn't have an answer now, but he will come down and look at it.

**Resolution #48**

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Supervisor LaPointe, seconded by Councilwoman Burke, the following resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays 0

RESOLVED that at 8:10PM the Board move into Executive Session to discuss road plowing.

**Resolution #49**

CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilwoman Burke, seconded by Councilman Hart, the following Resolution was ADOPTED. Ayes 4, Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Executive Session be closed and that the board return to the regular meeting at 8:45PM.

On motion of Councilwoman Cathie Burke, seconded by Councilman Greg Harris to Adjourn the regular meeting at 8:50PM.

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

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

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

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

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

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