

Public Hearing & Regular Meeting

Of the

Putnam Town Board

July 11, 2024, 7PM ~ Putnam Town Hall ~ Zoom

7:00 Public Hearing Called to Order

Supervisor Wilson opened with a review of the rules. Each speaker will have two minutes to speak on the topic of the public hearing, Enforcement and amending the Site Plan Review. Dave Manchester spoke first, asking if the language used in the document, was standard language. The Town Attorney Mr. Winn replied that it was standard language but has lesser penalties than other towns/villages may have. Stephanie Wagoner spoke next reviewing an issue she had with a neighbor. Mrs. Wagoner concluded her comments saying she was in favor of amending the enforcement portion of the Site Plan Review. Glenn Brownstein spoke next in favor of the amendment to the Site Plan Review Enforcement section. Leslie Bain spoke next stating that she wondered if some people are trying to make Putnam a little Queensbury or a homeowner's association. She stated that she would rather not have one more set of regulations to deal with. Ms. Bain spoke against the amendment to the Site Plan Review Enforcement section. Ken Solomon spoke in favor of the amendment to the Site Plan Review Enforcement section. Ernie Huntington spoke in favor of the amendment to the Site Plan Review Enforcement section.

Supervisor Wilson called for further comments three times but there were none.

Public Hearing Closed: 7:07 PM

Open the Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board 7:07PM

Supervisor Darrell Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present:	Supervisor	Darrell Wilson
	Councilwoman	Carole Schneider
	Councilwoman	Kayla Bennett
	Councilman	Larry Shiell
	Councilman	Charles Bain

Others present: Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Clerk), Bill Brown (Planning Board Chair, 17 Charter Brook Lane), May Drinkwine-Shiell (Resident, 439 County Route 3), Kay Greenough (Resident, 427 County Route 3), Dave Hayes (PVFD, 560 Gull Bay Road), Robert Winn (Town Attorney, 13 North Street, Granville, NY 12832), Art Sheeley (Planning Board Member, 13 Firehouse Lane), Glenn Brownstein (Resident, 2300 Black Point Road), Stephanie Wagoner (Resident, 2198 Black Point Road), Jim Kloiber (Resident, 2198 Black Point Road), Leslie L. Bain (Resident, 371 Peterson Road), Ernie Huntington (Resident, 239 County Route 3), David Manchester (Resident, 5177 Sagamore Road), Stephen Hughes (Resident, 5569 Evergreen Shores Way), Paula Wilson (Planning Board Clerk, 15 County Route 3), Peter Leyh (Resident, 5560 Evergreen Shores Way), Susan Solomon (Resident, 2351 Black Point Way), Ken Solomon (Resident, 2351 Black Point Way).

Present via ZOOM: Karl Ohly (Resident, 428 County Route 3),

Resolution #62

Accept the minutes of the June 13, 2024, Regular meeting

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilwoman Kayla Bennett; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #63

Accept the Financial reports for the month of June 2024

On motion of Councilwoman Kayla Bennett, seconded by Councilwoman Carole Schneider; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #64

Accept the Town Clerk’s report for the month of June 2024

On motion of Councilman Bain, seconded by Councilwoman Carole Schneider all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #65

Accept the Town Justice Report for the month of June 2024

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilwoman Kayla Bennett; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #66

Pay bills as audited

On motion of Councilman Larry Shiell, seconded by Councilwoman Kayla Bennett; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolved, the bills on the following are paid as audited.

General Fund	# 157-178	\$10,659.38
Highway Fund	# 64-71	\$120,547.65
Black Point Sewer District	#5	\$21,123.14

Correspondence

Adirondack Park Agency (APA)- Conditional approval of Project 2023-0018 ProcellaCOR EC application (See attached)

Chris Johnson- Appreciation for the Highway Superintendent and crew for the Sagamore paving. (See attached)

John Campbell- Planning Board support. (See attached)

Courtesy of the Floor

Resident Karl Ohly addressed the room speaking for four minutes and fifty-one seconds (4:51).

“Hi doctor Ohly here. Thanks for letting me speak. I have ah two examples of violations of New York State Open meeting law. Documented in the Putnam Planning Board meeting minutes. For June of 2024. In that meeting, town council member Larry Shiell addressed the Planning Board to offer an apology to a planning board member for the contents of a conversation that happened when there was a quorum at the main 2024 town board meeting prior to the official start of that meeting. This discussion was held off the record with audio muted on zoom not otherwise reported, was also not documented in the Putnam Town board meeting minutes from May 2024. Even though the content of the discussion was considered to be relevant to town business by Councilman Shiell. This is a violation of open meeting law though Councilman Shield recently revealed he’s well versed in editing the meeting minutes for a town board meeting to reflect the relevant meeting content. He routinely departs his house more than an hour before

the start of the public meeting. Which would reveal that off the record, meetings are routine in the town of Putnam. As a discussion of the details, which Councilman Shield was apologizing progressed at the June Planning Board meeting, Chairman Brown then abruptly ended the discussion of the topic brought by Councilman Shiell in favor of convenient closed meeting after the June 2024 meeting. Bill Brown, 'we need thank you. We can talk about um, we can just talk about it afterwards'. Councilman Shiell. 'OK', Clerk Paul Wilson. 'All alright. So, are we going to put it into our meeting minutes?', Bill Brown. 'Yeah, we can.' Galen Seerup 'Yes, we'll put it in', and there were a bunch of people talking all over each other in agreement. Bill Brown 'just put it in the minutes, our minutes. I can give you the details about it'. Paula Wilson 'I can, OK'. Bill Brown 'anything else?' and then the meeting moved on. Now using the planning board, business would be handled in a clandestine meeting off the record as violation of the New York State Open meeting law. Is also an executed conspiracy, which the town supervisor as a mandatory reporter of to the state attorney General. Unless he wishes to be complicit. The Town and Planning boards asked the public trust to trust them and should conduct business in an open public manner as the law demands. These examples too, among many others where groups of town board members discuss matters before and after meetings and groups amounting to a quorum are specifically governed by the state of New York and may not be held off the record. Remedy for these violations is to bring suit at the New York Supreme Court under Article 78 of the Civil Practice law and rules, or an action for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief. I would rather and the public trust would benefit from the Town of Putnam creating a policy today and then executing that policy moving forward. Where all encounters between a quorum of town board members or a quorum of planning board members being reported and made available to the public. Simply put, reporting commences when quorum is gathered no matter the subject of discussion, silence, etcetera and ends with the gathering members. Executed conspiracy is just the latest example of corruption. The Planning Board has a documented history of harassing farmers while approving everything for their buddies. Ten days after the Chairman's house burned down, he had a plan on a new site on a new house. That was approved with so much, not so much as a hearing, on the spot, the Planning Board says yes to everything that is good for each other. Including not enforcing the Planning Board law on Mr. Wilson's illegal buildings. Larry Shields illegal building. That was somehow approved. He has some made-up story that Bill Ball approved it verbally some time ago. I'm just scratching the surface with the corruption in the Planning Board that involves the Town Board. If it's a free for all for the select buddies of the Planning Board and Planning Board members themselves, get rid of the Planning Board and make it a free for all for everyone in Putnam. Thank you."

Planning Board Clerk Paul Wilson replied to Mr. Ohly's assertions. "I just like to say that I did not mute. I would have to physically get out of my chair and gone over to mute him to mute the conversation. So what he is saying is exactly right when that statement was made about what happened. I said is this supposed to be in the minutes, I didn't know, you know and So what he's saying is absolutely correct but by no means did I ever mute anything. He wants to record them, record it on ZOOM, he has a recorder, be my guest."

Resident Peter Leyh spoke next commending the Highway Superintendent and his crew on the superior job done on the Sagamore Road paving. Mr. Leyh also suggested that Gull Bay Road lines need to be repainted. Mr. Leyh changed topics opined the Town should have an annual town gathering so people can get to know each other. Mr. Leyh asked for an overview of the powerline project and asked if there are plans for the funds coming to the town.

Highway Report

Supervisor Wilson gave a brief report in the absence of the Highway Superintendent about a road closure, due to the power line, in the next two weeks on Lake Road.

Planning Board Report (7:20)

Chairman Bill Brown reported that the Planning Board had five applicants at their meeting the evening prior. One was a project in Black Point that is currently in the process of filing appropriate paperwork for

their project. The second was for a boathouse on Gull Bay Road. The third and fourth were for dock replacements. The last was for a garage.

Fire Department report

Supervisor Wilson reviewed the report submitted by Dave Hayes. (See attached)

Old Business

Resolution #67

Accept Policies for Personal belongings, Closing of an Office or Municipal Building, Dress Code, Vendors & Solicitation, and Computer usage.

On motion of Councilwoman Kayla Bennett, seconded by Councilwoman Carole Schneider; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

New Business

Budget Officer Cee McKenzie is beginning the 2025 budget process. The Board received handouts showing actual expenditures as compared to what was budgeted for comparison. There was a brief discussion about funding for the Board to consider before the 2025 budget process begins.

Resolution #68 (7:45)

Move to Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to a specific employee

On motion of Councilman Larry Shiell, seconded by Councilman Charlie Bain; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Resolution #69 (7:59)

Leave Executive Session

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilwoman Kayla Bennett; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Resolution #70 (8:00)

Adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Councilman Charlie Bain; all in favor. Resolution unanimously adopted.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 8th at 7PM at the Putnam Town Hall and ZOOM

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Kerr
Putnam Town Clerk

Darrell Wilson _____ Supervisor

Carole Schneider _____ Councilwoman

Kayla Bennett _____ Councilwoman

Larry Shiell _____ Councilman

Charles Bain Sr. _____ Councilman

Town Planning Board

2 messages

john campbell <jampbell5269@gmail.com>
To: Darlene Kerr <townclerk@townofputnamny.com>

Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 9:52 AM

Darlene - we sent the following message to the contact link on the town website but here it is again in case it didn't go through.

At a recent board meeting there was discussion about possibly disbanding the Town Planning Board. We want to go on record as supporting the retention of the Planning Board for the following reasons.

- (1) The Town Planning Board ensures that certain minimum standards are followed for any construction project. Keeping standards in place as enforced locally by the Planning Board is very important in maintaining minimum standards throughout the town. A deterioration in standards could well affect the valuation of properties throughout the town with significant impact on the tax base.**
- (2) The Town Planning Board is staffed by local residents who understand local conditions much more than other agencies and thus can render more accurate and appropriate decisions.**
- (3) Reliance on the APA or LGPA will mean considerable additional hardship and cost for affected individuals.**
- (4) Reliance on APA or LGPA removes local participation in the decision process and greatly increases the risk that decisions will be made that don't take into account local needs.**

In summary, we feel the current Planning Board provides a valuable service and definitely should be retained.

Donna and John Campbell

5269 Sagamore Road, Putnam Station

Darlene Kerr <townclerk@townofputnamny.com>
To: john campbell <jampbell5269@gmail.com>

Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 11:29 AM

John,
Received. Thank you for your input. :)

Darlene
[Quoted text hidden]

Chris Johnson/ Sagamore Association
6215 Oliver Way
Putnam Sta, NY

6/20/24

Dear Putnam Town Board-

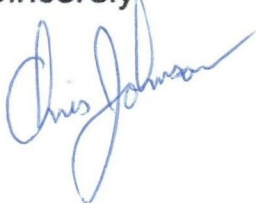
Greetings. I am writing to share how professional Highway Superintendent Mr. Gary Treadway has been. He and his crew did a rock solid job on the Sagamore Rd rebuild and a much expanded turn-around circle.

By way of background, I worked with Gary in my role as Secretary of Sagamore Association. He found a win-win for us and the Royal Anchorage Association (copying Marta Coleman, President of Royal Anchorage) in a thoughtful and clever way. For the town, a much larger turn-around for a snow plow and possibly a school bus was needed. To make that happen, the two associations moved a trash house and provided more land. For the Associations, we had significant drainage flowing from the old circle that was putting too much hydraulic load on the fragile road in. Gary engineered a far superior drainage arrangement and design for the new circle. He was efficient and professional in engaging us and he did exactly as he stated would be done.

Beyond the turn around circle, Gary's team did a spectacular job on ditching along Sagamore and then paving. I've been here 23 years and the rebuilt road is properly sized, graded and drained like never before.

Thank you for doing that project. Thank you for Gary and team who worked with two Associations in a cordial, pragmatic, cost effective, win-win way from inception to completion. I've heard nothing but praise for the project.

Sincerely



Cc: Marta Kolman, Royal Anchorage Association



Adirondack Park Agency

**MAJOR PROJECT PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION DETERMINED
APA PROJECT NO. 2023-0018**

Date: June 21, 2024


The purpose of this notice is to inform you that on **June 20, 2024**, the Agency conditionally approved the project and issued Permit **2023-0018**.

The project is located in the Town of **Hague, Warren County**, on or near **Blair's Bay, Lake George**. The project is briefly described as follows: **The project involves the application of the aquatic herbicide ProcettaCOR EC to control Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum) within a 4.0 acre area of Blair's Bay, Lake George.**

Please contact **Aaron Ziemann** at the Agency if you should have any questions.

Date

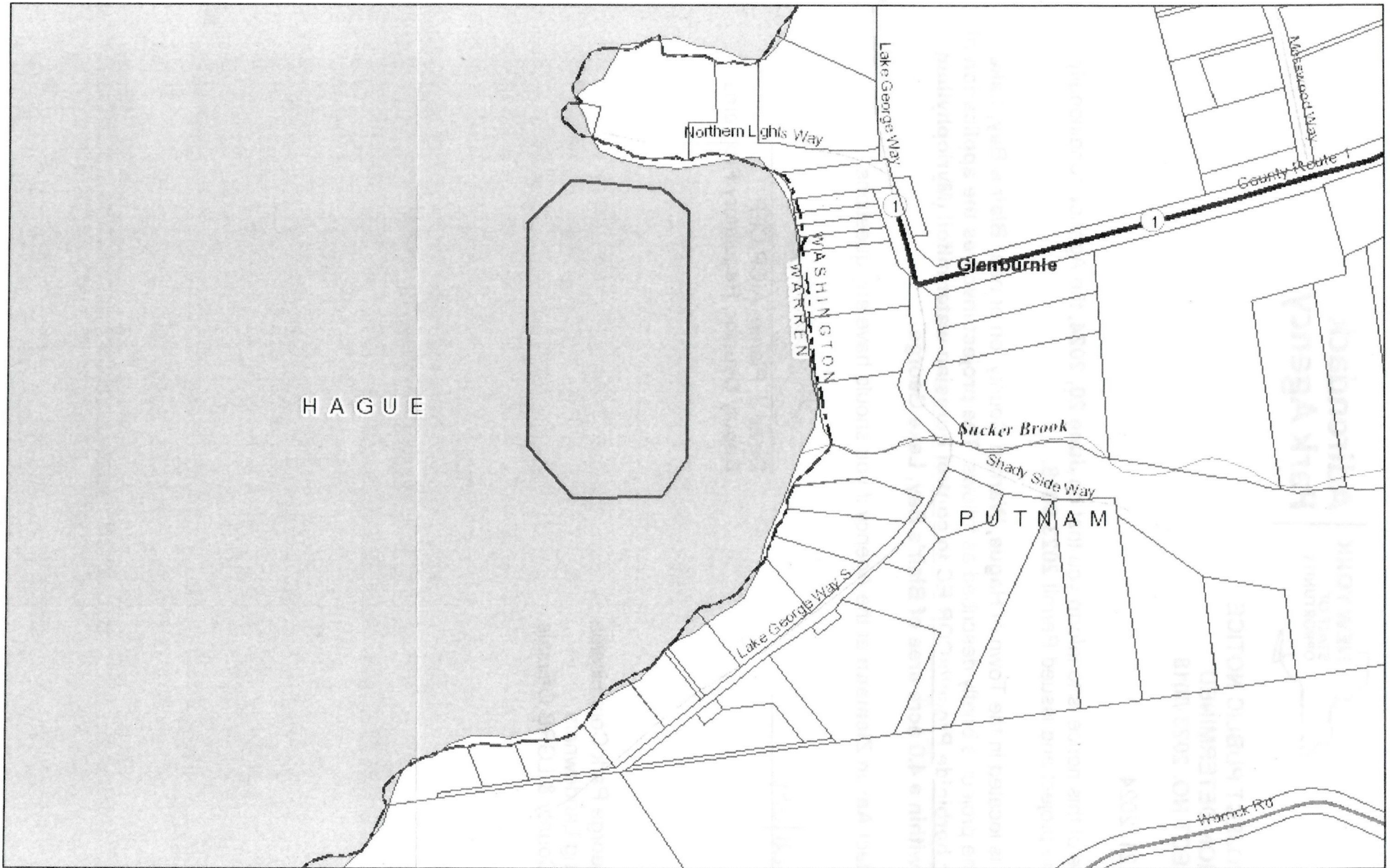
6/21/24



David J. Plante, AICP CEP
Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs

cc: Lake George Park Commission
Adjoining Landowners
Town, County & LGRB Officials

P2023-0018 Location Map



2/3/2023, 10:47:35 AM This is advisory only, not to be used to confirm exact boundary location or for determining Agency jurisdiction.

- APA Project Review Sites _Query result
- Parcels 2021
- █ Park Boundary Blueline

NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Putnam Volunteer Fire Company (PVFC)
2nd Quarter 2024 Report to the Putnam Town Board
July 11, 2024
Presented by D. Hayes, PVFC Secretary

Staffing and Training

There are currently 11 members in the Putnam Volunteer Fire Co.. Nine members are Interior Firefighters, one is an Exterior Firefighter, and one has completed the fire police course. Two members are certified EMT's and all members have current CPR certifications. Company members are expected to regularly refresh and update their skills through weekly drills and formal coursework led by NYS certified instructors. One of our exterior firefighters took and successfully completed the Interior Fire Operations course this Spring. Our Chief, Doug Thatcher, is a NYS Fire Instructor who is certified in several subspecialties. This spring the members took a half-day course at the firehouse taught by representatives from Elkhart Brass. The purpose of the course was to determine, for each of our fire trucks, the pump pressure settings to use in order to achieve certain desired water delivery volumes from our various firehose nozzles. Also this spring we completed outfitting our newly acquired rescue boat and did several practice runs on Lake George.

Emergency Responses

During the 2nd quarter the PVFC responded to eighteen 911 calls, which can be categorized as follows:

EMS --- 8
Power Lines Down --- 2
False and Cancelled alarms --- 2
Fires in Putnam --- 1
Fires in Ticonderoga --- 1
Fires in Whitehall --- 1
Smoke reported --- 1
Standby at the Putnam fire station --- 1
Standby at the Ticonderoga fire station --- 1

To provide historical context a table is included as an Appendix to this report showing the number and variety of emergency calls the fire company has received since 2017. It is our mission to be an emergency service that is trained and equipped to respond to most hazards.

Budget Forecast, Expenditures, and Overall Financial Condition of the Company

We have enclosed as another Appendix the current version of our 2024 budget (revenues, forecasted expenditures, and actual year-to-date expenditures). The balance in our operating budget account as of the end of June was \$101,690.17. Monies set aside in previous years to

put in our truck replacement fund are now directed to making annual loan payments of \$34,666.11 on our new fire engine. We are currently carrying two truck loans with total annual payments of \$65,096.59, or 39% of our total budget. Final truck loan payments occur in 2028 and 2039.

Condition of the Fire Trucks

The PVFC has five fire trucks: two engine/pumpers and one water tanker for fighting fires and responding to motor vehicle accidents and hazardous incidents, one SUV (a Chevrolet Tahoe) for EMS calls, and one truck to take members and their gear to rescue scenes, including water and ice rescues. The latter truck was purchased from another fire company using funds donated by Putnam Town residents. During 2023, also using fundraising funds, we purchased a 19-foot boat to use for water rescues and were given, at no cost, a hovercraft from the North Queensbury Fire District to use with ice rescues.

All our trucks undergo regular servicing and NYS inspections. Our newest pumper arrived this past summer and replaced a truck that was 32 years old. It is short and has 4-wheel drive making it particularly suitable for reaching houses on narrow and unpaved roads, such as are found in the Gull Bay and Glenburnie areas. It carries 1250 gallons of water, compared with 500 gallons on the truck it replaced. Our next newest pumper is 11 years old, and our tanker is 22 years old. Our fire trucks collectively carry 5,000 gallons of water, which is needed because the Town does not have fire hydrants.

Condition of other Equipment

Our other emergency response equipment is in good shape. There is a need for annual inspections and replacement of hoses and air-packs, inspections of ladders and fire extinguishers, and calibration checks of air monitors. We are up-to-date on all of these and the future costs of doing these are built into each year's budget forecast.

Condition of the Fire Station Building and Grounds

The fire station has many maintenance needs but none of them are emergencies. All the basic systems, heating, septic, electrical, and water, are functioning properly. The maintenance concerns pertain to poor insulation, poor condition of the interior paint, and the poor condition of the interior walls. We also need additional space for our turnout gear and washer and dryer, which for health reasons should be in their own room but are currently located in the main truck bay. During 2024 we have set aside \$15,000 in our budget for building maintenance. In 2023 we hired a contractor to paint the walls in the main truck bay and installed a 26 KW standby generator for the firehouse. One of our goals is to make the firehouse a suitable place of refuge in case of a town disaster.

Communications to the Community

Each summer we send an annual newsletter to all Putnam property owners describing our activities during the preceding 12 months. This year's newsletter will be mailed out in July.

External Grant Applications

We received a \$24,000 FEMA-AFG grant in 2023 to purchase an extractor (washer) and dryer for our turnout gear. These have now been purchased and delivered to us and are awaiting some electrical and plumbing upgrades to the firehouse before being installed. In February we submitted a new FEMA-AFG grant in the amount of \$61,500 for replacement fire hoses and nozzles. We should hear whether our application has been approved sometime this summer.

Fundraising Efforts

Our annual newsletter to the Putnam community is generally our most successful fundraising effort and usually yields \$10,000 - \$12,000 in donations to the fire company. In past years, we have also hosted a Chicken BBQ in July, but have decided not to do it this year because we don't have enough people available to take this on.

PVFC Incident Statistics

Prepared by D. Hayes -- Last Updated on 07/07/2024

Type of Incident	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 Thru June	% of Responses Since 2017
EMS	31	22	30	35	29	47	31	16	44.5
False & Cancelled Alarms	8	10	8	5	5	7	10	2	10.1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	5	4	2	5	12	8	2	7.9
Water Rescues	1		2	2	1	4	5		2.8
Ice Rescues	2			1		2	0		0.9
Other Rescues (hiking, snowmobiling, etc.)				1		0	0		0.2
Standbys at Ti Fire Station	4	9	8	5	10	2	2	3	7.9
Standbys at Putnam Fire Station					1	1	1	2	0.9
Standbys at Dresden Fire Station				1		0	0		0.2
Standbys at Whitehall Fire Station				1		0	0		0.2
Fires in Putnam		6	5	4	5	5	3	2	5.5
Fires in Ticonderoga	1	6	3	2	6	10	4	2	6.3
Fires in Dresden or Whitehall	1	1	1			3	1	1	1.5
Fires in Crown Point								1	0.2
Smoke	1	2		2	1	0	4	1	2.0
CO Alarms	1		1			1	0		0.6
Service calls (water in cellar, tree on road)	2		3			0	1		1.1
Hazardous Situations (Elec., Chem.)	1	2		1		0	0		0.7
Power Lines Down	1	1	2	5	10	7	2	3	5.7
Lightning strikes		1				0	0		0.2
Other		1				1	1		0.6
	CHECK THE % SUMMATION								100.00
TOTAL # OF RESPONSES	59	66	67	67	73	102	73	35	542

**A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE SITE PLAN REVIEW LAW FOR THE
TOWN OF PUTNAM, NEW YORK
LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2024**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Putnam as follows:

SECTION 1: Section 8.05 of the Putnam Town Law entitled “Site Plan Review Law” (Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2020) is hereby amended to read as follows:

8.050 Enforcement.

Any person who violates any provision of the Putnam Site Plan Review Law shall, for every such violation, forfeit and pay a civil penalty of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250. When a violation of any of the provisions is continuous, each day thereof shall automatically constitute a separate and distinct violation subjecting the offender to an additional civil penalty without the necessity for any further notice, order or other action by the Code Enforcement Officer or authorized designee, including a Town Compliance Officer. The Code Enforcement Officer or authorized designee, including a Town Compliance Officer, has the authority under this chapter to commence a civil action in order to collect the civil penalty or penalties imposed pursuant to this section in the Town of Putnam Justice Court or other court of competent jurisdiction, provided that the Town Board consents to same. To the extent that this provision is inconsistent with the Town Law of the State of New York, Chapter 62 of the Consolidated Laws, Article 16, § 268, the Town Board of the Town of Putnam hereby declares its intent to supersede said section of the Town Law, pursuant to its home rule powers under the Municipal Home Rule Law, Article 2, § 10 et seq., of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York.

SECTION 2: Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.