

Regular Meeting Of the Putnam Town Board

May 9, 2024, 7PM ~ Putnam Town Hall ~ Zoom

7:00 Meeting called to order

Councilman Larry Shiell 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: Gary Treadway (Highway Superintendent, Treadway Lane), Bill Brown (Planning Board Chair, 17 Charter Brook Lane), Wayne Busby (Planning Board Member, 11 Charter Brook Lane), Mark Karlson (Planning Board Member, 2388 Black Point Way), 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), Leslie Bain (Resident, 371 Peterson Road)

Present via ZOOM: Mary Jane Dedrick (Deputy Clerk, P.O. Box 14), Nancy Wolf-Fisher (Resident, 5183 Sagamore Road), Karl Ohly (Resident, 428 County Route 3)

Resolution #41

Add additional verbiage from Councilman Larry Shiell to the April Minutes (See attached for verbiage submitted by Councilman Shiell)

On motion of Councilman Charlie Bain, seconded by Councilman Shiell, opposed by Councilwoman Carole Schneider. Resolution passed by the majority.

Resolution #42

Accept the minutes of the April 2024, Regular meeting with additional verbiage from Councilman Larry Shiell (See attached for verbiage submitted by Councilman Shiell)

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

Resolution #43

Accept the Financial reports for the month of April 2024

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

Resolution #44

Accept the Town Clerk's report for the month of April 2024

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

Resolution #45

Accept the Town Justice Report for the month of April 2024

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

Resolution #46

Pay bills as audited

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

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

General Fund	# 84-113	\$9,451.43
Highway Fund	# 40-46	\$6,563.25

Correspondence

Chris Navitsky- Thank you letter for inviting Mr. Navitsky to April’s meeting.

Courtesy of the Floor

Karl Ohly addressed the Board. Mr. Ohly thanked Councilman Shiell for the additional verbiage to the prior month’s minutes. Mr. Ohly discussed a white paper written by Planning Board Chair Bill Brown regarding the containers on Mr. Ohly’s property. Mr. Ohly read aloud an excerpt from the white paper. “If an amicable solution cannot be reached, it is recommended that the building code enforcement officer issue a violation notice and immediately have the Connex boxes removed from the property until such time the Ohly’s meet the compliance requirements of the Putnam site review law”. Mr. Ohly asserted that his property is agricultural, and exempt from site plan review, he continued saying that what is being proposed in the white paper is “an illegal search and seizure of private property”, “violating our Fourth Amendment rights”.

Wayne Busby addressed the Board asking where “we stand” on getting a Compliance Officer in Putnam. Supervisor Wilson replied that a Compliance Officer was not in the current budget. The new budget planning cycle begins in July.

Leslie Bain spoke next asking if anyone was aware of the trouble with assessments in Warren and Essex Counties. She cited several properties whose assessments were raised by tens of thousands of dollars. Mrs. Bain is concerned how this will impact people in Putnam with limited incomes if the same revaluation of property values is done in Putnam.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent (HS) Gary Treadway opened by reporting the new sign at Cummings Park has been placed at the park entrance. HS Treadway extended a thank you to Matt Austin at Washington County for making the sign. HS Treadway continued saying he has researched fences and has inquiries out to various installers for estimates of how much a fence at Cummings Park will cost. He has not received any calls back as of today’s meeting. HS Treadway researched materials for the fence and believes just materials will cost around \$1,000. Supervisor Wilson advocated to have an outside entity install the fence to free up the Highway crew to concentrate on spring road work. Also, preparing the roads for paving projects that are on the schedule for the 2024 season. HS Treadway also advised that the white goods pick up will take place again this year on Wednesday July 10 and Thursday July 11. Residents can call the Town Clerk’s office to be placed on the pickup list.

Resolution #47

Authorize the Highway Superintendent up to \$2500 to outsource building a fence at Cummings Park.

On motion of Supervisor Darrell Wilson, seconded by Councilman Shiell.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Carole Schneider	Yes
Councilwoman Kayla Bennett	Yes
Councilman Larry Shiell	Yes
Councilman Charlie Bain	Yes
Supervisor Darrell Wilson	Yes

Passed unanimously

Authorize payment for Gradall repair, \$5770.50 for labor and parts

A payment voucher for Gradall repairs was presented to the Board for payment out of cycle. All Board members signed the voucher for payment.

Planning Board Report

Chairman Bill Brown reported that the Planning Board had their monthly meeting the prior evening. There was only one new project on the agenda. Mark and Kristie Watrous proposed a 30 x 50 building on a cement pad on Liddle-Harris Road. Chairman Brown handed out materials he had received at training he attended. Councilman Shiell raised the issue of a Compliance Officer.

Fire Department report

Dave Hayes gave the FD report. Mr. Hayes reported 7 call outs for the month, bringing the total to 24 for the year. 3 were EMS calls 1 was a structure fire, 2 reports of smoke, and 1 standby at the Ticonderoga fire station. The FD had an open house in April. Only one person attended. Kewit has given the FD a \$13,000 grant for equipment needed for confined space rescues.

Old Business

Policies- The Town Board is currently developing an employee handbook. The policies for May are Domestic Violence, Workplace Safety, Non-Union Appeals.

Resolution #48

Accept Policies for Domestic Violence, Workplace Safety, and Non-Union Appeals

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

Site Plan Review- Supervisor Wilson revisited proposed changes on the Site Plan Review application and Subdivision application. The change would give consent to the Planning Board to enter a property with notice for the purpose of assurance of compliance with a submitted plan. Councilman Shiell opined that the Town needs a Compliance Officer to enforce the rules that we have, and he will vote in favor of it. Town Attorney Robert Winn added that he felt a current Site Plan Review Law violation is not enforceable the way the law is written because there is no penalty provision in the law. Attorney Winn suggested an amendment to the Site Plan Review Law to clarify penalties for violations. Councilwoman Kayla Bennett raised the issue that the people who the Planning Board are trying to reach are not apply to the Planning Board, so adding an additional requirement to the application is in essence adding an additional layer to applicants who are already in compliance. After a discussion it was decided that making a change to the law would be the most desirable direction for the Town Board, rather than adding another layer to the Site Plan Review Application.

Resolution #49

Modify the Site Plan Review Law to update the penalty section, to set fines per violation, per day, at \$250 and to set the public hearing for the June 13th meeting.

Councilwoman Carole Schneider	No
Councilwoman Kayla Bennett	Yes
Councilman Larry Shiell	Yes
Councilman Charlie Bain	No
Supervisor Darrell Wilson	Yes

Resolution adopted by majority

Resolution #50

Table the proposed change to the Site Plan Review and Subdivision applications

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

No change will be made to the Site Plan Review and Subdivision applications at this time.

Cemetery Regulations- Attorney Winn reviewed the modifications suggested at the prior month's meeting. Additional language was added about notification to the Cemetery Commissioner of when, where, who, birthdate, and death date of the individual buried in a plot. A waiver provision will be added for footstones along with installation regulations.

New Business

Rabies Clinic- is scheduled for June 5th beginning at 6pm. Appointments can be made at the Town Clerk's Office.

Resolution #51 (8:45)

Adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Putnam Town Board

On motion of Councilwoman Carole Schneider, seconded by Supervisor Darrell Wilson; all in favor.
Resolution unanimously adopted.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2024, 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