

PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019
6:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Departmental Reports
3. Supervisor's Opening Comments
4. Three Proclamations for Residents
5. County Legislator Report
6. School Report
7. Approval of minutes
8. Discuss Live Streaming
9. Discuss Appointment of Assessor
10. Approve NYSE&G replacement of all Town Owned street lights with LED's
11. Continued discussion of de-icers
12. Continued discussion of Airbnb's

Districts:

13. District Property Grass Cutting
- 13A. Authorize Supervisor to sign the Watershed and CSLAP Proposal Contract for Roaring Brook Lake

Highway:

14. Appoint snow plow riders

Building Department

15. Daily Fee Report

Parks and Recreation

16. Refunds
17. Budget Transfers
18. Public Comment
19. Audit of Monthly Bills

PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019
6:00 PM

PRESENT: Supervisor Oliverio
Councilwoman Annabi
Councilman Luongo
Councilman Mackay
Councilwoman Whetsel

ALSO PRESENT: Town Counsel Florence
Town Clerk Sherry Howard

Supervisor Oliverio welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that this meeting is being held tonight as last week's meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Boy Scout Zachary Kuttruf led the Pledge of Allegiance; and moment of silence for our troops.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Presented by Councilwoman Annabi

2nd Lieutenant of the Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department, Frank DiMarco, reported on the Department's month of February 2019 calls:

Calls:

3 EMS Assists
8 PIAA's
6 Automatic Alarms
1 Wires Down
3 Investigations
1 Cancelled enroute
1 Brush Fire
1 Ice Rescue
1 Hazmat

25 calls for the month - 293 man hours. Mr. DiMarco said, stay off the ice if you are unsure of how thick it is. Also, check your chimneys and make sure they are in working order before use.

Ambulance Corp. Captain Sandy Bohl reported:

39 Medical Calls

7 MVA's

7 Mutual Aid in and 3 mutual aid out

Calls: 56 calls for January 2019 with a total of 413 roster hours; 369 of them were done in-house.

Ms. Bohl said, please keep your sidewalks and driveways clear of snow in case of an emergency. In addition, make sure your address is visible so the Emergency Services can find your house.

Councilperson Annabi read a report written by Town Assessor Luongo. The report relayed that the application for the advanced STAR is due by March 1st – no exceptions. If you receive the basic STAR you do not have to reapply. You can apply now even if you are not 65 but you will be 65 years old this year. Please call Ms. Luongo at 845-526-2517 if you have any questions.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

RESOLUTION #R19-106

RESOLVED that the Town Board amend the agenda to add the following:

ADD:

12A – Discuss Demolition of a zombie house

12B – Relief for a wounded veteran

12C – Appoint Laborer for Highway Department

Seconded by Councilperson Annabi, unanimously carried.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio thanked the Highway Department, and Joe, Larry and Ray for coming out during the Holiday to clear up all the ice, snow, and freezing rain we had. The roads were great here, even when they weren't in other places. You guys are second to none – keep up the good work.

PROCLAMATIONS FOR RESIDENTS

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Councilperson Luongo presented a proclamation from the Town Board to Boy Scout Zachary Kuttruf for helping to rescue a resident who had fallen through the ice on Oscawana Lake. Councilperson Luongo said Mr. Kuttruf prevented a major tragedy by using the skills he learned through Boy Scouting.

Councilperson Annabi then presented Mr. Kuttruf with a proclamation from Senator Sue Serino, also praising his heroism and expressing gratitude for his life saving skills. Councilperson Annabi thanked him for his brave actions and told him that the State Assembly would like to have him and his family up to Albany to celebrate his valiant actions. Supervisor Oliverio said that the Scouting Programs in Putnam Valley are second to none; and becoming an Eagle Scout is a very hard accomplishment. He added that there was another resident who was to get a proclamation, and he will be honored in March as he was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Dede Farabaugh, Director of the Putnam Valley Free Library came up to the podium and said they are now offering another adult yoga class in April due to the programs popularity. There will also be additional yoga classes - so look on our website to see when they start. Their STEM initiative program they are running is called "drawbots" and you can sign up for that if you are in 3rd to 6th grade. There is also a program called the "Battle of the Books" for children in grades 5 to 8. On March 20th there is a program being held on natural medicine which is free. In addition, there is a knitting club, children's story time, baby time, and free Child ID's for young people 18 years old and younger. Gail Bennett, Library Board Member, said that you can get your Passport at the library – the Post Office no longer does this. There is also a monthly adult book club and a new writers group. The Friends of the Library will be offering free music programs – please come and learn how to play the ukulele.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR REPORT

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

County Legislators Nancy Montgomery and County Legislator Bill Gouldman came up to speak at the podium.

Legislator Gouldman reported: With tax season here there are phone scams all around us. Please don't fall for these types of things. Please don't be a victim; call the Sheriff's Department at 845-225-4300.

The Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District has a great program for everyone. They have a tree, shrub and seedling sale. Trees and plants are needed for conservation here in Putnam County. Order early so you can get the species that you want. Orders must be in by March 27, 2019.

If you use the WIC Program, you can now use the new electronic benefit card. Call the Public Information Officer at 845-808-1390.

Putnam County remains a high risk radon zone. You should protect your home and your family. You can get a test kit for \$11.00 - please check the Putnam County website.

There is a free Rabies Clinic being held on March 23rd from 2:00 – 5:00 PM at the South Putnam Animal Hospital, which is located at 230 Baldwin Place Road in Mahopac. Please call 845-808-1390; ext. 43160. Dogs, cats and ferrets are welcome. It is open to all Putnam County Residents.

The Town has requested an SPO for the Town Hall. This will be brought up at the March Protective Services Committee meeting. Legislator Gouldman will let us know when the meeting is as Supervisor Oliverio said he would like to attend.

County Legislator Gouldman thanked the residents who have called him with their issues and concerns. If there is a problem he can help with he is happy to do so. Please call him as his door is always open at 845-808-1020. On Peekskill Hollow Road going towards Kent there used to be a sign and markings on the ground warning drivers to stop at this location. When the weather is warmer the County will be repainting the markings and the sign will be put up again, until then be aware. A resident told him there was a major pot hole on the Mill Street Bridge. It has been fixed temporarily and will be fixed permanently shortly.

Supervisor Oliverio thanked Legislator Gouldman for his quick response to problems or situations brought to his attention.

Resident, Patty Villanova, asked about the above mentioned SPO officer the Town Hall is requesting. Supervisor Oliverio said he is interested in having a full time security officer for the Town Hall for the safety of the building. It would be a shared services thing like the schools have. We do have a lot of money in this place at times; and our employees should not be at risk. Councilperson Annabi reiterated this; and told of an incident with an angry and irate resident he took out on the employees that had to be removed from Town Hall. County Legislator Gouldman said an SPO officer is retired so they are trained but do not cost as much.

County Legislator Montgomery said she wanted to report on the MOU (Memo of Understanding) the Town has been working with the County for two (2) years re: the Granite Mountain Project, and the County/Town owned property that is adjacent to it. The Hudson Highlands Land Trust has been looking to maintain that property for you so it's like a free housekeeper; but somehow that MOU got lost. County Legislator Montgomery met with the Land Trust today to see what is needed to be done. She would like to be able to move this forward. Supervisor Oliverio said this would be outstanding to be able to join these two (2) properties together.

At the last Veteran's Meeting they approved a new Putnam County Veteran's Service Medal. There is a form to fill out and any veteran can apply for it.

County Legislator Montgomery is very concerned and involved with train safety. Our own Representative to the MTA Neil Zuckerman got very angry with the contractors that are charged with installing PTC (positive train control). They are failing, and may not meet our 2nd extended deadline. Mr. Zuckerman insisted that the MTA do a better job overseeing these contractors and it is good we have him there for us.

Resident, Patty Villanova asked County Legislator Montgomery about the construction that is going to go on at Oregon Corners. She responded that she has not gotten up to speed on that yet - but she will. Ms. Villanova then asked about the Tourism Agency as far as getting more money and a bill board to be located on Route 9 for Cold Spring Businesses. Legislator Montgomery has not met with the Putnam County Tourism Bureau yet, but it is a priority for her. These are things she said we have to work on.

Councilperson Annabi asked about the HEAP program for help with heating costs. There are parameters that need to be met. Legislator Montgomery said if someone needs specific help with the application she can walk them through it. Legislator Gouldman said call 845-528-1020 and someone will help them with the process.

SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT

Presented by Councilperson Mackay

Congratulations to the High School Boys Wrestling Team and the Boys and Girls Basketball teams they did a great job this season.

On April 5th - 7th The Putnam Valley Theater Works is proudly presenting "A Chorus Line". Get your tickets before they are sold out. Seniors get a big discount so please go.

Welcome to Dr. Jeremy Luft our new School Superintendent. Tomorrow there is a meet and greet and next Thursday there is a listening hour.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 16TH, AND FEBRUARY 13TH, 2019.

Presented by Councilperson Luongo

RESOLUTION #R19-107

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to approve the minutes from the January 16th and February 13th, 2019 Town Board Meetings.

Seconded by Councilperson Mackay, unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION: LIVE STREAMING

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

Councilperson Annabi said we have a lot of residents who are either cutting cable or do not get our local channels and would like to see live streaming for our meetings. The School Board does live streaming for their meetings. Anthony Arrien said many people are cutting cable and our new up to date system is capable of live streaming. We are very aware that franchise fees are an issue with the amount of people cutting cable. Our franchise fees could disappear and this money is what pays for our town channels – not tax payer dollars. Some of that franchise fee money goes to the General Fund and some goes to run our channels. This new Telvue System can still broadcast two (2) channels directly to the internet and even monetize them. In order to go live 24/7 with just Channel 20, there would be a one (1) time cost of \$4950.00 for an addition to the system for an industrial class machine to ease the strain on the current system. We would also require a continuous cloud cast service (which allows you to get on the internet) which would cost \$3,000.00 per year. The final and third cost would be a module which would be a one (1) time cost of \$2,000.00. This module would connect to what we currently have (archive.org), and give us the ability to archive and play back past filmed events and meetings we currently have stored. If we decide to do this it's a stepping stone to running both channels and being able to monetize them to make up for the lessening or complete dissolution of franchise fees. Councilperson Annabi said she is interested in the live streaming and when the meeting is over you would be able to go onto to you tube to watch it. Mr. Arrien said you would indeed be able to watch it on you tube or even social media.

Councilperson Mackay said the Putnam Valley Education Foundation is holding a fund raising auction on March 31, 2019 at the St. Georges Winery. There will be appetizers and entertainment – it will be a great time.

DISCUSSION: APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSOR

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio said every six (6) years by State mandate the Town is obligated to appoint an Assessor. We have an Assessor, who by all counts is doing an outstanding job. The State allows us to reappoint that position. Attorney Florence said that the judge of a good assessor is the consistency by which they assess as related to sales prices - and our assessors has received State awards every year. Supervisor Oliverio also complemented our Assessor on her community outreach. He would like to put this on for a vote next week at our first March meeting. Resident Patty Villanova questioned why there is no interview process for this job; and asked why it is just a reappointment? Supervisor Oliverio said this Assessor has proven herself year after year with community relations and an outstanding State recognized record, why go look for anybody else. She is second to none and deserves that position.

APPROVE NYSE&G REPLACEMENT OF ALL TOWN OWNED STREET LIGHTS WITH LED BULBS

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

RESOLUTION # R19-108

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to approve NYSE&G to replace all town owned street lights with LED bulbs at a cost not to exceed \$7,600.00

Seconded by Councilperson Whetsel, unanimously carried.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF DE-ICERS

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Councilperson Annabi said the de-icers and bubblers in Lake Oscawana help people who have the sea walls or permanent docks get through the winter without them getting damaged. There is a difference between a de-icer and a bubbler; and a difference in the way they should be aimed. They do soften the ice on the lake; and can be dangerous as we have recently learned. In order to keep people from getting hurt there needs to be a way to regulate them. We are working with LOMAC and our Town Attorney on legal regulations, permit fees, and instructions on how to properly use the de-icers and bubblers. Hopefully next winter everything will be in place. Supervisor Oliverio said we want to regulate it because they are necessary.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF AIRBNB'S

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio said this discussion will be put on next week's agenda instead of tonight. Next week's meeting will be a true work session discussion meeting.

UNSAFE STRUCTURE

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio said you should all have in your packet a memo from Building Inspector Quaglietta about a house located at 40-44 Powhatan Lane that is an unsafe structure. The owner has been warned several times about either repairing it or tearing it down - but they have not complied. It has now been well over two (2) years now and it is a dangerous unstable structure. It has been uninhabited for years. Supervisor Oliverio asked Mr. Quaglietta to send a letter to the owner stating you have 90 days in which you can begin repairs or demolition or we will begin the process ourselves. Supervisor Oliverio said he has spoken to the owner and he kept promising to do something; but has not done so.

This will be the final notice to them – if nothing is done we will move forward. Councilperson Luongo said this would be the advantage of having a sunset clause added to the permits issued by the Building Department.

RELIEF FOR A WOUNDED VETERAN

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

Councilperson Annabi said we have a request from a resident who lives on Lake Shore Road who is a disabled Iraqi War Veteran. His family's home was demolished by the last heavy snow storm we had. Many volunteers and non-profit groups are helping them make their home habitable again. He is asking the Town to waive the \$150.00 building permit fees required by the Town.

RESOLUTION # R19-109

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor waive the \$150.00 building permit fee for 429 Lake Shore Road.

Seconded by Supervisor Oliverio, unanimously carried

APPOINT HIGHWAY LABORER

Presented by Councilperson Mackay

RESOLUTION # R19-110

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to appoint Donald Yerkes of 96 Wiccoppee Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579 as a full time laborer effective March 11, 2019 at \$27.63 per hour. He replaces Andrew Backus who will be leaving March 8, 2019.

Seconded by Councilperson Annabi, unanimously carried

DISTRICT PROPERTY GRASS CUTTING

Presented by Councilperson Whetsel

RESOLUTION #R19-111

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to go out to bid for grass cutting on District properties for the 2019 season.

Seconded by Councilperson Luongo, unanimously carried.

APPOINT SNOW PLOW RIDERS

Presented by Councilperson Mackay

RESOLUTION #R19-112

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to appoint the following as snow plow riders at \$14.00 per hour with no benefits:

Trevor Earle
655 Sprout Brook Road
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

Douglas McKim
15 Westbrook Drive
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

Seconded by Councilperson Luongo, unanimously carried.

**AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE WATERSHED AND CSLAP
PROPOSAL CONTRACT FOR ROARING BROOK LAKE**

Presented by Councilperson Luongo

RESOLUTION #R19-113

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the watershed and CSLAP proposal contract for Roaring Brook Lake. The whole cost of the work is \$7,075.00.

(13A)



Northeast Aquatic Research

George W. Knoecklein, Ph.D. Principal Limnologist
www.northeastaquaticresearch.net
February 1st, 2019

TO: Town of Putnam Valley and Roaring Brook Lake Property Owners Association
Attn: Sam Oliverio and Ina Cholst
FROM: Alejandro Reyes, Aquatic Ecologist & Project Contact
RE: Proposal for Watershed Investigation and CSLAP Data Review 2019

Town of Putnam Valley,

Thank you for requesting our professional services for the management of Roaring Brook Lake. Based on our preliminary review of both past Citizens Statewide Lakes Assessment Program (CSLAP) data and past consultant reports, Roaring Brook Lake exhibits characteristics of a productive waterbody, meaning that there is an overabundance of invasive aquatic plants and algae. Plants and algae are a direct result of enrichment of nitrogen and phosphorus, which can enter a lake from the watershed or be internally cycled from the sediments to the overlying waters. The following proposal outlines a watershed investigation and stormwater mapping project, as well as a review of past CSLAP data to elucidate possible causes of cyanobacteria blooms, which have been common occurrences over the past few years. This work should be performed in the winter of 2019.

The goal of the watershed survey would be to identify areas that contribute excess nutrients and sediment to Roaring Brook Lake. This survey will include a cataloging of catch basins within the watershed and identification of areas prone to erosion and/or areas with poor stormwater practices. We will also use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to delineate sub-basins within the watershed.

The water quality and aquatic plant data review would allow us to evaluate changes in water quality over time, enhancing our understanding of the limnological dynamics that regulate productivity within the Roaring Brook Lake system. Data sources for this analysis include Citizens Statewide Lakes Assessment Program (CSLAP), New York State Lake Classification and Inventory Program and report from various consulting agencies. This data will be used to complete an application to the DEC for Roaring Brook Lake to be included on the 303(d) list for impaired waterbodies.

A presentation will be given to the Roaring Brook Lake Property Owners Association to present the results of the watershed survey discuss recommendations for watershed improvements. This presentation will also discuss our results on the review of past CSLAP data and consultant reports.

The total cost of the proposed work is **\$7,075.00**. Please see the table below for a breakdown of project costs:

Roaring Brook Lake Proposed Scope of Work Winter 2019		
Task Number & Description		Cost
1	Conduct one watershed investigation: mapping stormwater drains/catch basins, looking for erosion sites, areas with poor stormwater infiltration.	\$4,700.00
2	CSLAP and past consultant reports review, presentation to Town of Putnam Valley and Roaring Brook Lake Property Owners Association	\$2,375.00
Total 2019 Project Budget		\$7,075.00

We appreciate this opportunity to work for the Town of Putnam Valley and the Roaring Brook Lake Property Owners Association. If you have any questions please call me at 845-661-0824 (cell), or use email: ajreyes1022@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Alejandro Reyes

PL

Seconded by Councilperson Mackay, unanimously carried.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT- JANUARY 2019

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

RESOLUTION #R19-114

RESOLVED, that the Town Board accept the Building Department daily fee report and summary for the month of January 2019, for filing with the Town Clerk.

2/1/2019

15

**TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY
OFFICE OF BUILDING & ZONING
265 Oscawana Lake Road
Daily Fee Report - Summary**

From: 1/1/2019 To: 1/31/2019

Fee Type	Count	Amount
ADDITION/ALTERATION	1	\$173.00
ANTENNA	1	\$3,900.00
DEM/R	1	\$100.00
ELECTRI APP/NY ELEC	6	\$150.00
ELECTRIC APP/SWIS	14	\$420.00
FENCE/WALL	1	\$75.00
GAS/PROPANE	12	\$900.00
GENERATOR PERMIT	8	\$675.00
HVAC	5	\$375.00
MG	1	\$200.00
MI	10	\$975.00
OIL TANK	7	\$700.00
PELLET STOVE	1	\$75.00
PERM	19	\$3,722.00
PERRE	1	\$4,748.00
PL	6	\$585.00
RE	2	\$5,358.00
RU	2	\$250.00
SEARC	14	\$2,100.00
SI	1	\$75.00
SOLAR PANELS	1	\$272.00
WETADM	2	\$100.00
WETL	2	\$200.00
WT/S	2	\$200.00
Total Fees Collected:	120	\$26,328.00
Cash	8	\$510.00
Check	112	\$25,818.00

Seconded by Councilperson Mackay, unanimously carried.

PARKS AND RECREATION REFUNDS

Presented by Councilperson Whetsel

RESOLUTION #R19-115

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the following refunds:

Cynthia Negron	\$500.00
181 Tanglewylde Road	LPCC Rental
Lake Peekskill, NY 10537	Refund Deposit

Seconded by Councilperson Annabi, unanimously carried.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

Presented by Councilperson Mackay

RESOLUTION #R19-116

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the budget amendments and transfers for the fiscal year:

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Town of Putnam Valley

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TO: Town Board
FROM: Maria Angelico
SUBJECT: Budget Amendments - FINAL
DATE: February 20, 2019

Hereby request your approval of the attached Budget Amendments and Transfers for fiscal year ending 12/31/18, through February 17, 2019.



Date Prepared: 02/15/2019 04:13 PM

TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY
Budget Adjustment Form

GLR4150
Page 1 of 1

Year: 2018 Period: 12 Trans Type: B1 - Transfer Status: Posted
 Trans No: 112546 Trans Date: 12/31/2018 User Ref: MANGELICO
 Requested: Approved: Created by: MANGELICO 02/15/2019
 Description: FINAL 2018 BUDGET TRANSFERS Account # Order: Yes
 Print Parent Account: No

Account No.	Account Description	Amount
A.1320.410	AUDITOR.GASB CONSULTANT	-519.79
A.1355.410	ASSESSMENT.SPEC LEGAL EXP	519.79
A.1620.440	BUILDINGS.SUPPLIES & MAINTENANCE	1,019.90
A.1910.400	UNALLOCATED INSURANCE	-1,019.90
A.1910.400	UNALLOCATED INSURANCE	-424.00
A.7020.400	RECREATION.CONTRACTUAL	217.80
A.7020.410	LIFEGUARD TRAINING.EXPENSES	-217.80
A.7022.200	CAMP.EQUIPMENT	-112.77
A.7022.400	CAMP.SUPPLIES	112.77
A.7110.200	PARKS.EQUIPMENT	-36.26
A.7110.400	PARKS.CONTRACTUAL	36.26
A.7310.200	CHILDRENS CENTER.EQUIPMENT	80.02
A.7310.400	CHILDRENS CENTER.CONTRACTUAL	-80.02
A.8020.200	PLANNING.EQUIPMENT	-129.96
A.8020.400	PLANNING.CONTRACTUAL	129.96
A.8160.420	TOWN SERVICE - BULK PICK UP	424.00
SM01.1630.472	POWER AND LIGHT	736.86
SM01.1640.240	GARAGE.EQUIPMENT	-736.86
SM01.1640.240	GARAGE.EQUIPMENT	-120.01
SM01.1640.424	GARAGE.MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	120.01
SM01.7111.210	COMMUNITY CENTER.IMPROVEMENTS	-460.29
SM01.7111.400	COMMUNITY CENTER.CONTRACTUAL	392.00
SM01.7111.430	COMMUNITY CENTER.MAINT & REPAIRS	68.29
SM01.7180.200	BEACHES AND LAKE.EQUIPMENT	-1,532.73
SM01.7180.472	BEACHES AND LAKE.CONSERVATION	1,532.73
SM01.8160.100	SANITATION.LABOR	-2,944.56
SM01.8320.472	WATER.MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	2,944.56
SM04.1630.400	ADMIN & CLERICAL.EXPENSE	-18.76
SM04.1630.472	POWER AND LIGHT	18.76
SM08.1420.400	SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL	-1,371.33
SM08.1980.400	DAM.ENGINEERING AND REPAIRS	1,282.50
SM08.1980.410	DAM.FENCING FOR CARP	225.00
SM08.7180.471	BEACH.MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	-136.17

Date Prepared: 02/15/2019 04:13 PM

TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY
Budget Adjustment Form

GLR4150 1.0
Page 2 of 2

Total Amount: 0.00

Seconded by Councilperson Annabi, unanimously carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Mark Weiss, President of the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center said for the 2019 season we are offering many quality inexpensive performances. Saturday, March 16th join us for a celebration of Irish Culture for Saint Patrick's Day at 7:30 PM. Saturday, March 30th there is an amazing performance by the Jim Kweskin Band. The Cultural Center produced 40 events last year and is filling up quickly this year. If you have a family or organizational event and want a historic place to hold it – please give us a call. Please check our website Tompkinscorners.org, and thank you to our very supportive Supervisor and Town Board Members.

Resident Patty Villanova thanked Mr. Weiss for all of the great music they provide. She said that last November we voted to acquire land. That property is landlocked and the only way onto it is by a bridge owned by Mr. Venezia. Ms. Villanova did go to the County and got a whole stack of easements. Prior to the vote, she implored the Supervisor to get a title report. She said this is a two (2) million dollar bond so let's know what we are going to get. If we cannot use that bridge this would be important information. Ms. Villanova said that the Supervisor told her that if we get the property he would get a title report and so far he has not.

Supervisor Oliverio replied to Ms. Villanova that what she is saying is not accurate. He told her that Attorney Florence has indeed put in for a title report and it has been completed, but the company that did it is a private entity. He continued by saying when we have and it becomes a public document you will be entitled to get a copy of it - until that happens you are not entitled to have it. Ms. Villanova said that information is a public record. Attorney Florence said he is the one who ordered the title report. Ms. Villanova countered by saying there is no record, or Purchase Order or any other indication that the title report being ordered. Supervisor Oliverio said the Town would never sign a contract without having a title report. Councilperson Annabi said we have not purchased the land yet, and will not sign the contract unless the title report is clear. Ms. Villanova said, but you already have the money sitting there and you cannot give it back. Attorney Florence said you must get a contract first before you order the title search.

Supervisor Oliverio warned Ms. Villanova about making false accusations. Supervisor Oliverio said we did not order the title prior to the vote because if the vote had gone down we would have wasted about \$10,000.00. Ms. Villanova said this vote was just to purchase land and what if it turns out you can't use the bridge and you have to build a new road? Supervisor Oliverio said he met with the owners of the bridge just today and it's all done.

Dr. Stephen L. Smith a five year resident said one (1) of his concerns is that he has never paid higher property taxes than he does in Putnam Valley. This is mostly due to the high school taxes. He has met with Dr. Wills and will meet with the new Superintendent because he believes the school taxes have reached a level that is unsustainable for current residents. He has spoken to many residents who agree with him. He cannot afford any more incremental increases in his taxes because his property taxes have gone up \$5,000.00 since he has bought the home 5 years ago. He spoke to the School Board as to what would the interest be in starting up a task force to identify additional sources of revenue - with the goal of getting 40% – 50% of the school budget off of the backs of the taxpayer. He would like to get a synergy going between the Town and the School to help lower our taxes; which will allow people to stay here and to retire here. The cost for the school will only keep going up. Supervisor Oliverio said the difficulty is that both the School Board and the Town Board are separate Municipal entities. By law, one cannot influence the other. The biggest difficulty we have is that we are the most rural and have the least amount of infrastructure of the six (6) Towns within the County. Due to this we remain green; businesses do not locate here - so the residents carry the tax burden. The key is to lower the cost of the school. Dr. Smith said this district shops on Route 6 so we have a reasonable argument with the State to perhaps get a percentage of sales tax of concurrent shopping areas. Supervisor Oliverio said Dr. Smith should explore putting pressure on the State to determine tax rates based on income rather than property value. The Town is under an austerity budget right now so we can try to come in at a 0% increase next year. Attorney Florence said you will get push back from the people who are benefitting from the sales tax revenue. If you talk to the State, the major issue is the mandates that schools are forced to uphold. It is not the population growth, but the amount of state issued mandates. We are told that we can't raise the real estate tax more than 2% so the entity spending all the money is the State.

Councilperson Annabi acknowledged that our taxes in Putnam Valley are very high, and the School District is the major reason. She added that each of the six (6) towns in the County have their own Superintendent who has an Assistant etc. Yonkers has one (1) Superintendent for all their schools and their population is much larger than ours. The State should realign how things are done, maybe they could consolidate. Dr. Smith will report back and will hopefully get a real momentum going. Supervisor Oliverio said if you have a meeting please let us know.

Councilperson Mackay said that last week there was NARCAN Training at the Ambulance Corp. for which they did a great job, and there was a great turnout. As a member of the Putnam County Community that Cares, he thinks we need to look at our Governor possibly allowing the legalization of recreational marijuana. This will mean people will want to open stores everywhere they can. We need to explore a moratorium on this so it can't come into Putnam Valley. We already have enough trouble with vaping, drugs and alcohol. Supervisor Oliverio said even though it brings in a lot of money; we wouldn't see a dime of it anyway. He added, we can do this quickly and we will discuss this at our next meeting. Councilperson Annabi said we should also write to our Legislators about this and see if we can make it Countywide. Our vape moratorium is temporary but could be made permanent. Legislator Montgomery said it is hard to make these moratoriums permanent because people do have the right to open stores -but the locations can be regulated. There should also be social hosting laws created to go along with this such as there is with alcohol. Supervisor Oliverio agreed and said that Putnam Valley has many schools, nursery schools, and Houses of Worship so it would be hard to find a safe place to put them.

Resident Tom Carano said he hears everyone talk about budgets, mandates and lack of funding from the State. The approach is that the State is at fault with the way they distribute money to the Municipalities - but just last year a very partisan congress voted on a tax break – whether you agree with it or not. Right now, off shore, it is estimated that there is 50 trillion dollars that is not being taxed. Our GDP in 2017 was 11 trillion dollars. The amount of money off shore will be over 100 trillion dollars in the next four (4) years. You really need to think about how and who you vote for. As Gunter Grass said, "A citizen's job is to keep his mouth open." This is just food for thought.

Councilperson Annabi said we did receive Philip Amman's resume for his position on the BAR - thank you and the appointment now stands.

Councilperson Luongo said the Town Board was contacted about the condition of the sides of our roads. Putnam ARC may be able to help us with this when the weather breaks. They can help clean up the garbage on the side of the roads; it is all over the place.

AUDIT OF MONTHLY BILLS

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

RESOLUTION # R19-117

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the following bills, after audit, being paid:

<u>VOUCHER NUMBERS</u>	<u>AMOUNTS</u>
26053-26066	5,628.68
25855-25891	1,830.69
26098-26284	5,719.24

Seconded by Councilman Annabi, unanimously carried.

Supervisor Oliverio moved to go into Executive Session to discuss three (3) contractual matters all involving contracts at 7:49 PM, no further business will take place afterward.

Supervisor Oliverio closed the meeting at 7:49 PM.

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi, unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Sherry Howard
03-06-2019