

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019**

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING:**

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION**

1. Leprechaun Resolution
2. Appoint Anthony Cotone and Gregory Kroohs as temporary Groundskeeper/Recreation Assistants
3. Award open-top container bid
4. Request Peter Belefant to attend the NY Planning Federation Conference on April 28, 2019
5. Request Tom Carano to attend the NY Planning Federation Conference on April 28, 2019
6. Authorize Supervisor to sign Badey & Watson Agreement for survey of Horton Hollow Road
7. Discussion of Lake Peekskill Pump Station

Audit Monthly Bills

**PUTNAM VALLEY**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**6:00 P.M**

**ACCEPTANCE OF NRI MAPS, DIAGRAMS AND COMMENTS**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019**

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

Also Present: Kimberly McKeown, Deputy Town Clerk  
William Florence, Town Attorney

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for our armed forces.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO ACCEPT THE NRI MAPS, DIAGRAMS AND COMMENTS**

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio moved to open the Public Hearing at 6:03 pm.

It was seconded by Councilperson Mackay, unanimously carried.

**PRESENTATION BY**

Michael Usai - Chairman of Commission for the Conservation of the Environment spoke and said he was very happy to submit the final reference of the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) to the Town Board for adoption and use of Town Officials and residents. The NRI working group is a subcommittee of the DEC in partnership with the Hudson Highlands Land Trust. There are twenty three (23) informational maps, some maps are from the original Master Plan and there are new maps. An example is the ground pools map, which shows Ground Pools and suspected Ground Pools in the Town. The Historical Resource's Map shows historical resources, points of interest and highlights the town's history. There is also a Scenic Resources Map that shows scenic views, view sheds and viewpoints. Each of these maps is supported by a detailed report and data that catalogues the significant natural, cultural and historic resources of the Town. Along with background information on the maps and interpretation of the maps.

The NRI is designed to be a planning tool for town officials and an informational resource for residents. The maps provide information that is useful in planning and other decisions and matters that come before the Board, they help balance conservation so in the future we can continue to enjoy healthy ecosystems, a connection to our past and the scenic resources that we value and enjoy today and to make sure they continue into the future.

The NRI has shopped around other towns and counties for their review and feedback which has been very helpful. The NRI has been very well received. The NRI wishes to place in the hands of the Town Officials and Residents the maps and information to help preserve the natural and cultural resources of the Town and to offer guidance.

Supervisor Oliverio commented that he has never received so many positive emails as he has for this important project. He also stated that the maps go hand in hand with the strong environmental mindset of this Board. Supervisor Oliverio also stated that we will be moving to formally adopt this at our Regular Town Board Meeting next week.

### **Public Comment**

Karen Doyle approached the podium. Karen stated that she is the Manager of Public Policies and Planning with The Hudson Highlands Land Trust. She said she wanted to thank the Town Board and her partners on the project; The Putnam Valley Commission for the Conservation of the Environment, the DEC Hudson River Estuary Program, and Cornell's Department of Natural Resources for which this work was made possible. Karen said she also wanted to acknowledge that the NRI was made possible by funding from the New York State Estuary Fund, the New York State Environmental Protection Fund and The Hudson River Valley Natural Heritage Area also The Hudson River Valley Greenway which provided funding to assist us with the Historic Map, Scenic Resources Map and public workshops. Ms. Doyle again thanked the group that made it all happen in a year, beginning February 2018 and meeting once a month. She also said she wanted to touch on why the adoption of the NRI was so wonderful - Putnam Valley's Natural Resources provide many benefits to the people of the community. Your natural resources keep your drinking water clean, they filter pollutants, they absorb your flood waters, they moderate temperature, and they clean the air. These are all things you need in your community. They also provide resources for your outdoor recreation; give you scenery and a sense of place, your community's natural heritage. So I applaud you for this project.

Katerina Shindledecker the Director of Conservation at The Hudson Highlands Land Trust took the podium next. Ms. Shindledecker stated that she wanted to come to our meeting to express her gratitude to the Town Board for their consistent work to safeguard the town's natural resources.

She stated that the Hudson Highlands Land Trust Commission is protecting and preserving natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands. Natural Resources being a key component of that charge. Having communities identify cherished natural resources ensures that we make informed decisions when working with our partners. The Natural Resource Inventory allows the Land Trust to be a better resource to the Town and its Board. We can now better identify projects and partnership opportunities to support Putnam Valley's goals. The NRI acts as a platform for the Land Trust, to form a partnership with the land owners of the Town. It provides a foundation for discussion with property owners about precious natural resources within the community and how they can act as stewards of natural resources on their own land. So thank you, and we support the Town's adoption of the NRI.

Councilperson Whetsel spoke about how these are very comprehensive maps and they are amazing. The original Master Plan only had 7 or 8 basic maps. She is very excited that there are so many enthusiastic people involved in this project. Councilperson Whetsel said she understands that it was a lot of work and she gives her thanks. She also stated what a wonderful resource this is for the Town.

Councilperson Annabi was very impressed by the maps as well; she especially liked the flood zone maps and felt they are very useful in dealing with issues such as insurance. Councilperson Annabi asked if we have any copies of the map that are in color. She stated that it is very hard to determine things in black and white, she appreciates the great detail of the maps and congratulates everyone on a great job.

Ms. Doyle responded to Councilperson Annabi that they will be printing full size maps and a smaller version in color that will be given to the Town. They will also be available online.

Councilperson Luongo thanked everyone who worked on this project. Councilperson Luongo felt this was a great undertaking, he stated that although a color map might be easier to read, the proof of their accomplishment is there to see.

Councilperson Mackay added that he is also very impressed with the maps. Councilperson Mackay also thanked everyone for their hard work.

Councilperson Annabi was excited to see a bat conservation map.

Supervisor Oliverio asked for any other public comment.

As there was no other public comment, Supervisor Oliverio moved to close the Public Hearing at 6:15 PM.

It was seconded by Councilperson Luongo and was unanimously carried.

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**6:16 P.M.**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019**

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

Also Present: Kimberly McKeown, Deputy Town Clerk  
William Florence, Town Attorney

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

**RESOLUTION # R19-122**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board **ADD** to the agenda:

- #8 – Discuss allowing contiguous lots separated by a roadway be considered adjoined and united as one lot for both tax-map designation and taxing purposes.
- #9 - Discuss the Town utilizing both the Putnam Examiner and the Putnam County News and Recorder as the Towns official papers.

Seconded by Councilperson Luongo, unanimously carried

**LEPRECHAUN RESOLUTION**

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

**RESOLUTION #R19-123****LEPRECHAUN RESOLUTION**

By Herman Taub, Past Town Attorney

*WHEREAS*, it has come to the attention of the Town Board of the Town of Putnam Valley, that spirits, goblins, wee folk, fairies, and leprechauns do appear at strange and eerie hours and areas and more specifically are wont to do so on the night before St. Patrick's Day; and

*WHEREAS*, these ethereal beings are usually involved in mischievous and frivolous behavior; and

*WHEREAS*, the Town Board recognizes that these other world beings are generally recidivists and cannot be reformed no matter how much mischief they cause and notwithstanding the punishment that is prescribed; and

*WHEREAS*, it would be to no avail to provide for corporal or other punishments since fairies, spirits, wee folk, leprechauns and goblins of the hob type are incorrigible; and

*WHEREAS*, it is known that these wee folk have the power to appear and disappear at will and take the form of humans or animals; and

*WHEREAS*, on past occasions on the night before St. Patrick's Day a Shamrock has miraculously appeared on the road at the intersection of Oscawana Lake Road and Peekskill Hollow Road; and

*WHEREAS*, these mischievous doings have been heretofore erroneously ascribed to human sources; and

*WHEREAS*, after diligent study and consultation with our law enforcement officials, the Town Board has concluded that the appearance of said shamrock can only be due to the doings of creatures not of this corporeal world,

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED***, that for the period from 12:01 a.m. on March 14, 2019 to 5:00 a.m. on March 17, 2019, should there be any artistic drawings mysteriously appearing on the pavement of the road at Oregon Corners by spirits or ethereal beings of an unknown nature, a period of amnesty and freedom from corporal punishment and corporeal and "incorporeal" restraint of the alleged perpetrators is hereby declared only for the period and purposes set forth above.

Seconded by Councilperson Luongo, unanimously carried.

**APPOINT ANTHONY COTONE AND GREG KROOHS AS TEMPORARY  
GROUNDSKEEPER/RECREATION ASSISTANTS**

Presented by Councilperson Luongo

**RESOLUTION # R19-124**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board appoint Anthony Cotone and Greg Kroohs as temporary Groundskeeper/Recreation Assistants at \$20.66 per hour with no benefits.

Seconded by Councilperson Annabi, unanimously carried

**AWARD AAA CARTING AND RUBBISH REMOVAL - OPEN TOP CONTAINERS FOR  
BULK DROP OFF 2019**

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

**RESOLUTION # R19-125**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board award AAA Carting & Rubbish Removal the 2019 Open Top Container for the 2019 Bulk Drop Off as they were the low bidder.

Seconded by Councilperson Luongo, unanimously carried

**PETER BELEFANT TO ATTEND NY PLANNING FEDERATION CONFERENCE**

Presented by Councilperson Whetsel

**RESOLUTION # R19-126**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the attendance of Peter Belefant to the NY Planning Federation Conference in Bolton Landing, NY, on April 28<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> Registration Fee \$220.00 and Hotel Cost \$338.00 for a total cost of \$558.00

Seconded by Councilperson Luongo, unanimously carried

**TOM CARANO TO ATTEND NY PLANNING FEDERATION CONFERENCE**

Presented by Councilperson Whetsel

**RESOLUTION # R19-127**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the attendance of Tom Carano to the NY Planning Federation Conference in Bolton Landing, NY, on April 28<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>

Registration Fee \$220.00 one day registration. Total cost \$220.00

Seconded by Councilperson Annabi, unanimously carried

**AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH BADEY & WATSON FOR THE HORTON HOLLOW ROAD SURVEYING SERVICES**

Presented by Councilperson Luongo

**RESOLUTION # R19-128**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign a contact with Badey & Watson for the surveying of Horton Hollow Road.

Councilperson Annabi asked what the cost of this work is.

Supervisor Oliverio explained that Badey & Watson were the original surveyors of Horton Hollow Road, they laid out the driveways, wetlands and where the houses would be, etc. Therefore they are the organization that we want to use for an updated view of Horton Hollow Road. Before we can do any work the DEC requested that we show them The Scope of Work so that they (the DEC) know where exactly we intend to dig this road, how wide it will be, where the wetlands are and any other impacts that may occur. The DEC will be the overriding agent on this project, guiding the Town in its pursuit of this paving project. The DEC cannot do that without a topographic survey. It will cost \$26,000.00 (twenty six thousand dollars) for the survey. This is a one mile road that needs everything done; tree placements, wetland areas, run-offs, impact on animals and plants. The DEC rightfully or wrongfully is a powerful agent and in order to get this done we have to follow their recommendations and it is environmentally sound to do so.

Seconded by Supervisor Oliverio, unanimously carried

Councilperson Mackay added that we recently found out the bridge is a State bridge. This bridge is on the State's list of defective bridges, it needs to be immediately remediated. Now it's just a matter of our state representatives and the Town pushing the State to get the bridge fixed. That bridge is not in good shape.

**DISCUSSION LAKE PEEKSKILL PUMP STATION**

Supervisor Oliverio began the discussion by stating that back in the day; Lake Peekskill had a water supply for their summer residents, and over time Lake Peekskill became year round. Summer water was no longer a viable option. Every resident then planted a well. The water system was discontinued under Supervisor Santos around 2001 or 2002. In the time of the abandonment of the water supply there was a pump house that provided the water from the New York City Aquifer. They would pump it from the Aquifer



to the pump house and out to the residents. That pump house needs to be taken down. The DEP or the old Waterworks (another term you may use) has said that the building needs to be gotten rid of now that it is no longer being used. They have given us a 5 year window to do so. We have begun the preliminary work by testing to see if there were any dangerous chemicals or toxins. There are none, and that is a real plus. The next step is to move forward with the Scope of Work on exactly how to remove that building. It can be done manually. It is a wood structure on a cement slab. In talking to the DEC their representative said that a possibility could be to dismantle the wood manually and then truck it away. The cement slab then needs to be sealed and covered. There is a sub-surface compartment where the main valve that came from the Aquifer is located. We need to seal that valve and pour cement or sand into that underground area, and seal that up as well. We have a few years to do this work, and the first step is the bidding process. Councilperson Mackay asked if there was some way of getting to the pump house because the only bridge was taken out in a storm a few years ago and now there is no access. Supervisor Oliverio said you can park on Traverse Road and walk down to the pump house, the debris would have to be carried back up board by board. We can contract it out or do it in-house. We have not decided that yet. This is a District item and will be billed to the District.

## **DISCUSSION TAX MAP LOT LINES**

Councilperson Luongo started by reading the agenda item as follows:

Discuss allowing contiguous lots separated by a roadway be considered adjoined and united as one lot for both tax-map designation and taxing purposes.

Supervisor Oliverio began the discussion by stating that in our town there are two or three various houses that have had their lots separated by a roadway. Our forefathers then separated the lots, which at one time were continuous (before the roadway). This denies the Homeowner any opportunity to utilize the other lot for anything, like a parking area. I find that unfair, the property was divided by the municipality aka the Town. What I would like to do, is remove the divided lines, the lots have to be across from each other, one cannot be down the road. When lots are divided by a roadway they should be considered whole. I would like us to explore this and do this for the entire Town. As I said before there are 3 or 4 lots like this. Councilperson Annabi stated that she thinks it should be looked at on a case by case basis. Supervisor Oliverio said we can't do that. Councilperson Annabi said there has to be a reason, if you have a 3 acre lot on one side of the street and a 9 acre lot on the other and you combine them to make them one lot, they may now be able to make them multiple lots for sale or building. Supervisor Oliverio said we have people that are being fined for parking a car on their lot across the street. Councilperson Luongo stated that maybe we are looking at the wrong law. If you own the property, why can't you park your car on it? If you own it, you can use it, not that you can put a garage on it, but use it. Supervisor Oliverio again reiterated that our fore fathers have it down in the code that if a lot is divided by a roadway it must be

considered two separate lots; the second lot cannot be built upon and is not considered part of your mainstay household. Councilperson Mackey said that is what Councilperson Luongo is suggesting that we change. Councilperson Luongo said we need to look into this further. Supervisor Oliverio suggested we talk to Fred Finger and Rich Quaglietta our Building Inspectors. Councilperson Mackey asked doesn't this have to do with the legal footage that is on the road. Supervisor Oliverio said that he thinks that is part of it, but the code doesn't specify that, it's very strange. Councilperson Luongo added that we are not going to let anyone build there unless it is conforming. Supervisor Oliverio said the lots he is thinking of are not buildable.

Supervisor Oliverio said we will continue our discussion on this.

### **DESIGNATE PUTNAM COUNTY NEWS AND RECORDER AND PUTNAM EXAMINER AS TOWN OFFICIAL PAPERS**

Presented by Councilperson Annabi

Councilperson Annabi began by saying that right now the Putnam Examiner is the Town's official newspaper, however, their deadlines do not meet the needs of our notices. Councilperson Annabi is requesting that we have two official newspapers, the Putnam County News and Recorder and the Putnam Examiner so we can put our notices out in a timely manner. Supervisor Oliverio stated that the County uses both the Putnam County News and Recorder and the Putnam Examiner.

### **RESOLUTION #R19-129**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board designate the Putnam County News and Recorder and the Putnam Examiner as the Town of Putnam Valley's official newspapers.

Seconded by Supervisor Oliverio, unanimously carried.

### **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

Councilperson Mackay said Neise's Farm will be opening soon on Saturdays and Sundays. The maple bacon is delicious and the maple syrup is some of the best made in the State of New York. Councilperson Mackay also said the Roaring Brook Homeowners Association is doing a presentation at the Tompkins Church on March 31, 2019 at 11:00 am on the old farms, farm foundations, mill sites and abandoned mines of the area. Anyone interested in the history of Putnam Valley should stop by.

Councilperson Annabi spoke about our Museum and the fact that it is in dire need of repairs. She said we are waiting for the Inspectors Report, before we can determine what repairs need to be done. Councilperson Annabi also said we can save a lot of money if we use some people from PCAI (Putnam County Alternative to Incarceration)

to do the work. PCAI has done a lot of work at Tompkins Cultural Center over the past 3 years and have also done work at the VFW. Councilperson Annabi said you will be seeing them around the area soon, picking up garbage along the roadside.

Councilperson Mackey asked if we have looked into any grants. Supervisor Oliverio said we can do that but, when Putnam County did the Courthouse, New York State had oversight and a 1.5 million dollar project ballooned to 4.5 million. This was because the State requires certain improvements in order for the project to be historically accurate. Councilperson Annabi stated that the museum is on the registry of historical buildings but not landmarked, so we wouldn't have to be as strict. Councilperson Mackay stated that we need to take care of this building.

Councilperson Annabi also spoke about residents who are calling NYSEG and requesting street lights on their road. A light post has a lot effects that we may not always be immediately aware of. Light pollution and negative impacts on the wildlife of the area are some examples. Once a light pole is installed, it is there forever. We should see what we can do to regulate some of this.

### **AUDIT OF MONTHLY BILLS**

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

### **RESOLUTION #R19-130**

<u>VOUCHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
26108-26395	266,343.91
26036-26431	259,653.59
26064-26388	43,877.23

Seconded by Councilperson Mackay, unanimously carried

Supervisor Oliverio moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter.

Supervisor Oliverio moved to close the meeting at 6:52 PM.

Seconded by Councilman Mackay, unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly McKeown  
Deputy Town Clerk  
3/15/2019