

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**  
**5:00 PM**

Pledge of Allegiance

Community Choice Aggregation Presentation

Supervisor's Comments

1. Resolved to approve District Zoning Code Changes
2. Resolved to approve Solar Energy Moratorium
3. Resolved to approve the Restrictions of the Sale on Controlled Substances
4. Accept the resignation of Pat Grove from the CCE
5. Authorize Supervisor to obtain proposals for RBL Dam Repairs
6. Request to waive Commence Work permit fees
7. Building Department – Daily Fee Report for August 2020
8. Parks and Rec. – Refunds and Personnel
9. Highway – Personnel addition
10. Authorize Court to apply for a JCAP grant
11. Audit of Monthly Bills

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**  
**5:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Oliverio  
Councilman Smith  
Councilman Luongo  
Councilwoman Annabi  
Councilwoman Whetsel

**ALSO PRESENT:** Town Clerk Sherry Howard  
Town Counsel Robert Lusardi

*Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for our troops.*

**SUPERVISORS COMMENTS**

Supervisor Oliverio welcomed everyone to the Work Session meeting.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

**RESOLUTION #R20-243**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board amend the agenda to **DELETE/ADD** the following:

**DELETE** and move to the Town Board Meeting on September 23, 2020 –

- #1 – Resolve to approve District Zoning Code Changes
- #2 – Resolve to approve Solar Energy Moratorium
- #3 – Resolve to approve the Restrictions of the sale of Controlled Substances;

**ADD/AMEND**

#5 – Authorize the Supervisor to obtain proposals for both RBL and Lake Peekskill Dam Repairs.

Seconded by Councilman Luongo unanimously carried

## **COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PRESENTATION**

Presented by Councilman Smith

Councilman Smith said during the Covid crisis he went on to several webinars and heard about something called Community Choice Aggregation that has a lot of great reviews throughout the nation. Councilman Smith and Supervisor Oliverio had a zoom meeting with Jeff Domanski from Hudson Valley Energy who is here tonight to speak to the Town Board and the community. Mr. Domansky brought with him eight (8) slides to show to the Board and the Town.

Mr. Domanski said he has worked in the environmental and sustainability field for about 30 years. This program is the most exciting thing he has worked on due to the magnification of the impact it can have on a community. He said Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) is a policy enabling municipalities to source energy on behalf of its residents, businesses, and other organizations. Community Choice Aggregation is a policy that builds on an energy supply market place; and this policy has been in place since the late 1990's. In the late 1990's the State deregulated the energy markets eliminating the monopolies that existed at the time; such that this has made our utility services "delivery companies" – much like UPS or FedEx – that is how they make their money, thus allowing many, many energy companies to crop up. Utility Company customers have the ability to sign a contract with an energy supply company to select where their power comes from. They would typically do that for two (2) reasons; one (1) to save money and/or two (2) to select a company using renewable energy resources. The second reason sometimes cost more money than the customer was previously paying. The benefit of Community Choice Aggregation is that it combines both reasons into one (1). This policy must be enabled by a City, Town, or Village in New York State.

In the case of the CCA – their focus is only on electricity not gas. Joule Community Power has chosen Hudson Valley Energy to promote the CCA in this region. The Joule Community Power definition is – Municipally enabled 100% renewable electricity supply, including local clean energy, with cost savings for residents and businesses.

On the third slide, Mr. Domansky showed his own electric bill. He is currently a member of the CCA in his home in Beacon. He explained everybody's electric or gas bill has two sections - so it is two (2) bills in one (1). There is the delivery section, (which is where the utility companies make their money), and there is the supply section, (which is the part the CCA plays). They do not replace the utility company you are using, the only thing that changes is the rate you pay for your supply. Mr. Domansky explained that the utility rate cannot be fixed while the CCA rate is fixed. This means that the CCA rate cannot go up or down. This information corresponds with the forth slide which states that the Customer is protected by the fact that there is not contracts, no restrictions. Low fixed supply rate. There is a fixed period program length of two (2) years which can be repeated; and there is team support. The Program Rates only proceeds if less than the benchmark (which is the utility average); and is less than individual customer rate for 100% renewable. This is a win-win scenario.

With the thousands of households involved we get a great rate much like what happens at B.J'S. In addition, 200,000 metric tons of Greenhouse Gas emissions are avoided. It also makes a powerful impact on the New York electricity grid. In the energy supply market place there are a lot of bad actors. We were chosen to represent this program because of all of the consumer protections we have in place; and all of the restrictions. There is nothing sneaky, underhanded or dubious, it is offered as a benefit to the community.

Supervisor Oliverio asked if all of our residents have to join if we adopt this. Mr. Domansky said the residents that are eligible for this program are those who currently have NYSE&G choosing their supplier for them. So when we do the required steps outlined in the implementation process, and we have been approved by the Department of Public Service to proceed, the utility gives a list to the selected supplier of the eligible customers. We don't remove people from their third party contract. The program launches with a letter being sent to those above mentioned eligible parties. The letter is sent in partnership with the Town Supervisor. The letter explains what the program is, with instructions to opt out if they choose, but they must opt out.

Councilwoman Annabi said you are asking the Town to bring you on as a supplier to NYS&G rather than knocking on doors like other companies have done. In other words you came to us instead of asking residents individually. You are asking our residents to pay attention and answer your letter or they will be stuck with whomever you pick to be our supplier. Councilwoman Annabi does not think that the Board should make that decision for the homeowner. Mr. Domansky said this does not replace NYSE&G, it just replaces the supplier. He went on to say CCA gets proposals from suppliers, which then handcuffs them, because they now have to meet our requirements. Councilwoman Annabi asked what happens after the two (2) years are up. Mr. Domansky said we would either redo it again if you were happy or not.

The fifth and sixth slide refers to the **Administration Team of Joule Energy Community Power** – The slide states:

- Entity authorized to represent Municipalities CCA implementation process
- NYSERDA-contractor developing CCA programs and resources
- Overseeing several CCA programs in New York State, with Local Program Managers

**The Administration Team of Hudson Valley Energy – Joule selected “Local Program Manager”**

- Leads outreach, education, and “customer support” efforts
- Support the Hudson Valley CCA partners communities for the duration of the programs
- A 501 (c) (3) non-profit focused on providing citizen-centered services to support sustainability efforts.

**Our Mission: Promoting People-Powered Sustainable Communities 12:31**

Mr. Domansky said when you look at slide seven (7) you will see the three (3) choices that the consumer always has available to them in a participating community choice aggregating community:

**Electric Supply**

1. NYSE&G
2. Third Party Supplier (ESCO)
3. CCA\*

**Solar**

- A. No Solar
- B. Solar at your home/business
- C. Community Solar

\*With our program you can always opt out. The three (3) options in the first column work with the three (3) options in the second column. Community solar is getting a lot of attention lately.

Slide 8, which is the final slide, lists the CCA Implementation Process which is as follows:

1. Adopt enabling local law
2. Select CCA Administrator
3. Public Outreach Period
4. Dept. of Public Service Approval
5. Aggregated data request from NYSE&G
6. Town approves supply contract
7. Solicitation for energy supply (RFP)
8. Award RFP and execute supply contract
9. Kick-off meeting, pre-launch outreach
10. Opt-out period
11. Process opt-outs and enrollment
12. Program launch

Mr. Domansky said Steps one (1) through seven (7) are non-committal steps. If you choose to not participate in this program, you have 30 days to opt-out. Councilwoman Annabi asked what the cost to the Town will be. Mr. Domansky said the Town would enter into a service agreement contract with Joule. He added they get paid by an administrative fee that the supplier who wins the bid has to include in their rate, and even with that in the rate they still have to meet the benchmark. Town Attorney Lusardi asked if there is any litigation concerning this program from the utility companies taking the position that this program is unconstitutional or illegal? Mr. Domansky said, no, not in New York, the utility companies are in-line with this program. Councilwoman Whetsel asked what is the main source of energy being used, wind, solar, etc.? Mr. Domansky replied that is predominantly certified hydro power from New York State. Supervisor Oliverio asked the Town Board to please review this material and mention it to your constituents. He asked Mr. Domansky if the Members of the Board could call him if they have any questions, Mr. Domansky said yes of course.

Councilwoman Annabi asked if the Town does sign up for this and some people who sign up change their mind within the first couple of months what happens? Can they then opt-out? Mr. Domansky said they can drop out without any penalty. There may be times when our price is higher but for the most part they will see savings. Councilman Smith said Phillipstown is part of this program, and you can ask someone who lives there what they think.

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF PAT GROVE FROM THE CCE**

Presented by Councilman Luongo

**RESOLUTION #R20-244**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board accept the resignation of Pat Grove from the CCE effective immediately.

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi, unanimously carried.

**AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO OBTAIN PROPOSALS FOR RBL AND LAKE PEEKSKILL DAM REPAIRS**

Presented by Councilwoman Annabi

**RESOLUTION #R20-245**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to obtain proposals for RBL and Lake Peekskill Dam repairs.

Supervisor Oliverio said what this is is not the actual repair but permission to obtain proposals from an engineering and planning organization to put out and create the bid specs for the dams at Roaring Brook and Lake Peekskill. Both dams are very safe and both dams are not in danger. We are just talking about bringing them up to brand new specifications from NOA. We have to prepare for any upcoming storms to drop heavy amounts of water as storms have been doing lately. So we need to upgrade them in just such a case.

Seconded by Councilman Smith, unanimously carried.

**REQUEST TO WAIVE COMMENCE WORK PERMIT FEES**

Presented by Councilwoman Whetsel

**RESOLUTION #R20-246**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to waive the Ambulance Corps fee for a commence work permit. The Commence Work Permit is in reference to the removal of contaminated soil on the Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Dept. property and Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corps property (tax map # 72.20-1-7.12 and 72.20-1-7.11, respectively).

Seconded by Councilman Smith  
Councilman Luongo recused himself;  
By a vote of 4 ayes, and 1 recusal the Resolution is carried.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT- AUGUST 2020**

Presented by Councilman Smith

**RESOLUTION #R20-247**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board accept the Building Department daily fee report and summary for the month of August 2020, for filing with the Town Clerk.

Seconded by Councilwoman Whetsel, unanimously carried

**PARKS AND RECREATION REFUND**

Presented by Councilman Luongo

**RESOLUTION #R20-248**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approve the following Parks and Recreation refunds:

To: Town Board  
From: Frank DiMarco, Parks and Recreation Director  
Subject: Parks and Recreation Refunds  
Date: Sept 1, 2020

Joanne Wagner 18 Nob Hill Putnam Valley, NY 10579	\$40.00 Sports Yoga program didn't run
Ligia Cordon 24 Sunset Hill Road Putnam Valley, NY 10579	\$30.00 Sports Movie in the park refund- 2 cars
Katy Morley 17 Sassinoro Drive. Putnam Valley NY 10579	\$466.00 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year
Kristen Killian 16 Gilbert Lane Putnam Valley NY 10579	\$704.10 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year
Annette Dadamo 15 Holly St Putnam Valley NY 10579	\$627.30 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year
Elisa Babilonia 5 Greenhaven Rd Putnam Valley NY 10579	\$1,093.30 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year
Kristin Brown 338 Lake Drive Lake Peekskill NY 10537	\$40.00 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year
Mavel Licon 47 Lockwood Road Cortlandt Manor NY 10567	\$40.00 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year
Debra Peterson 14 Briar Court Putnam Valley NY 10579	\$482.10 PVCC Refund for Sept. 2020 school year



<b>Julie Slavin-Pezzola</b> <b>6 Cindy Lane</b> <b>Putnam Valley NY 10579</b>	<b>\$40.00</b> <b>PVCC</b> <b>Refund for Sept. 2020 school year</b>
<b>Lori Pittman-Lennox</b> <b>20 Seneca Road</b> <b>Putnam Valley NY 10579</b>	<b>\$66.00</b> <b>PVCC</b> <b>Refund for Sept. 2020 school year</b>
<b>Maria Mazzella</b> <b>28 Edinburgh Drive</b> <b>Peekskill, NY 10566</b>	<b>\$72.00</b> <b>Programs</b> <b>Defensive Driving refund for 2</b>
<b>Margaret Dirubba</b> <b>436 Trump Park</b> <b>Shrub Oak, NY 10588</b>	<b>\$144.00</b> <b>Programs</b> <b>Defensive Driving refund for 4</b>
<b>Catherine Cahill</b> <b>5 Barger Street</b> <b>Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567</b>	<b>\$36.00</b> <b>Programs</b> <b>Defensive Driving refund</b>
<b>Lisa Gona</b> <b>P O Box 183</b> <b>Putnam Valley, NY 10579</b>	<b>\$36.00</b> <b>Programs</b> <b>Defensive Driving refund</b>
<b>Vera Hanrahan</b> <b>4 Tinker Hill</b> <b>Putnam Valley, NY 10579</b>	<b>36.00</b> <b>Programs</b> <b>Defensive Driving refund</b>

Seconded by Councilman Smith, unanimously carried.

**PARKS AND REC PERSONNEL**

Presented by Councilwoman Annabi

**RESOLUTION # R20-249**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approve the following Parks and Recreation personnel addition:

1. Kristine Cabreja, PV Children's Center, @ \$12.00 per hour.

Seconded by Councilman Smith, unanimously carried

**HIGHWAY – PERSONNEL ADDITIONS**

Presented by Councilwoman Whetsel

**RESOLUTION #R20-250**

**RESOLVED** that the Putnam Valley Town Board authorize the Supervisor to appoint Angelo Milano of 36 Dartmouth Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579; and John Burlingham of 130 Pudding Street, Putnam Valley, New York 10579 as seasonal laborers at the rate of \$14.00 per hour with no benefits, on an as needed basis for the Lake Peekskill Improvement District and the Highway Department.

Seconded by Councilman Luongo, unanimously carried

**AUTHORIZE THE COURT TO APPLY FOR A JCAP GRANT**

Presented by Councilman Smith

**RESOLUTION #R20-251**

**RESOLVED** that the Putnam Valley Town Board authorize the court to apply for a JCAP Grant in the 2020-21 grant cycle. The funds will go for new carpeting in the Court Clerk's Office in the amount of \$1,650.00. The estimate is attached and will be submitted to the Office of Justice Court Support upon the Town Board's approval.

Seconded by Councilman Luongo, unanimously carried

**AUDIT OF MONTHLY BILLS**

Presented by Councilman Luongo

**RESOLUTION #R20-252**

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

<b><u>VOUCHER NUMBERS</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNTS</u></b>
<b>32242-32262</b>	<b>\$51,315.20</b>

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi, unanimously carried.

Councilman Luongo said Oregon Road will be closed on Tuesday September 22, 2020. The work is only supposed to take one (1) day during day time hours. This is an easy detour.

Councilwoman Annabi said Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup> is National Forgotten Victims Day. This day honors victims of senseless crimes or a drug overdose. There will be a vigil at the Town Park from 5-7PM. It is also called "purple chair day", so you may see someone with a purple chair outside of their house. The purple chair represents the victim. This is a tie-in with a bill being proposed for drug induced homicide victims.

Supervisor Oliverio moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. No new business will be discussed afterward.

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi, unanimously carried.

Supervisor Oliverio adjourned the meeting at 5:50 PM.

Seconded by Councilman Luongo, unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted



Sherry Howard  
Town Clerk  
09-23-2020

