

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Departmental Reports
2. Supervisor's Comments
3. Legislative Reports
4. School Report
5. Discussion Recycling Issues
6. Discussion Political Signage
7. Approval of 2021 CSEA Holiday Calendar
8. Highway Department – Approve purchase of a 2019 steam roller
9. Building Department – Daily Fee Report for October 2020
10. Parks and Recreation - Refunds
11. Planning and Zoning – Authorize Supervisor to sign agreement with Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture and Engineering
12. Approval of minutes
13. Audit of monthly bills
14. Budget Transfers and Amendments

**PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**

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

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

Supervisor Oliverio welcomed everyone to the Town Board Meeting.

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

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Presented by Councilwoman Annabi

Councilwoman Annabi gave an update on the Mill Street Bridge with information provided by County Legislator Gouldman as follows: This project is moving along and the cement is being poured. The Bridge is expected to be done within the next two (2) weeks. Supervisor Oliverio said the bed is already there. Councilwoman Whetsel agreed with Supervisor Oliverio and said she took a picture of it and put it on her Facebook page. If you have any questions you can call the Legislator's Office at 845-808-1020.

Councilwoman Annabi read the report from Sandy Bohl, Captain of the Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corp. The report reads as follows: The Ambulance Corp has had 70 calls for the month of October – 33 of them were medical calls. The Ambulance Corp enjoyed participating in the "Trunk or Treat" with the kids of Putnam Valley. They are working hard to be there for the residents, and we appreciate their support.

Councilman Luongo read the report from the Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department from the month of October 2020:

1 Structure Fire  
1 Vehicle Fire  
6 Personal Injury Auto Accidents  
2 Wires Down  
6 Automatic Alarms  
2 Investigations  
1 Propane Leak  
7 EMS Assists  
6 Cancelled en route = 32 total for October    344 year to date

306.37 personnel hours for the month of October – This comes out to about one (1) call a day for the month of October.

Councilman Luongo reminded everyone with Thanksgiving coming please clean your oven first! If you are going to fry your turkey follow the directions that came with your fryer. Don't use your fryer on a wooden deck and don't use it close to your home.

Dede Farabaugh from the Putnam Valley Free Library said the Library is open six (6) days a week which people may know because the new sign is finally operational. The Saturday after Thanksgiving they will do their annual Gingerbread House Building. They are giving the kits away this year as a curbside pick-up – you sign up on the website.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a program in conjunction with the Peekskill Library featuring Joe Rao. The subject is the Gemini Meteor Shower happening in December. There is also a program about Christmas traditions being held on December 21<sup>st</sup>, also in conjunction with the Peekskill Library.

There is one (1) segment left in the on-going program called "Courageous Conversations about Race" for this year, the next one (1) is Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. The topic is "White Fragility", you can get a copy of the book of the same name at the Library. Storytime is also on-going by zoom.

Lastly, we still have curbside delivery for books. You can still look at the books on the lower floor, just ring the bell on the side of the building. Children may also look at books upstairs by appointment only.

Councilwoman Annabi asked if the grant for the new sign was a full grant from the State or a matching grant. Ms. Farabaugh said it was a New York State Construction Fund for Library Development grant which is always a 50% – 50% matching grant. Supervisor Oliverio said some people are under the misconception that tax money had to be raised to pay for that sign that is incorrect. Ms. Farabaugh said she applied for the grant back in 2019. Supervisor Oliverio said but it was installed in 2020. Ms. Farabaugh said she got the grant money just last week.

Councilwoman Annabi said the matching money came out of your 2020 budget. Supervisor Oliverio said the Library did not receive a tax increase for next year in the 2021 budget. He thinks the sign is a great addition and it is for the residents. Ms. Farabaugh said people here do want more communication. The old sign was difficult to use and was dangerous to the employees to change the information on it. There was also a problem with the sign that occurred in the storm we had last August. A tree from across the street hit a telephone pole which then fell on the old sign. The old sign was incased in metal and when it was hit it created a high voltage charge that burnt out all the wires and the three (3) circuits outside the Library and went up into the ceiling of the Library. Luckily it happened at night when nobody was in the building or someone could have gotten killed. The weather pattern is changing and we are surrounded by trees. Supervisor Oliverio said when he was a child there were not the amount of trees we have now. The salt we us on the roads also weaken the trees roots. Councilman Luongo said the other problem with the trees is that the State only allows NYS&G to trim the trees up to 10 feet on property. Supervisor Oliverio said maybe we can do an ordinance that if you have a dead tree on your property you need to remove it if it's facing the road.

### **SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio said we know that we are in the second surge of Covid. He spoke to Dr. Luft today and we are waiting to hear from the County as to what phase we are in i.e. yellow, orange etc. They are still working on the statistics for that. With Thanksgiving coming up use your good sense, you decide what you need to do. If you can eat outside do that, be smart about it. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

### **SCHOOL REPORT**

Presented by Councilman Smith

Councilman Smith has also spoken to Dr. Luft and our schools are still open for business. They did speak about ending up in a "yellow zone" and the myriad of problems that this brings. It is not a simple thing as you would then have to test 20% of the students and staff and that can cost in the area of \$50,000.00 every couple of weeks. You also need consent for students to be tested which makes this a complex issue. They have sent out a couple of surveys that they hope everyone will respond to. In addition, 15% of students are doing school completely by remote learning only. They want to find out if these students would like to come back in January. They also want to know how the hybrid model is going.

**DISCUSSION: RECYCLING ISSUES**

Presented by Councilwoman Whetsel

Councilwoman Whetsel said the Commission on the Conservation of the Environment (CCE) had invited some people in to talk about the challenges and how to move forward with the recycling of the large amount of garbage we produce in our homes. The information these people brought was great and they spoke about putting together a presentation for a Town Board Meeting to show people what is recyclable, how to prepare the items, and what is not recyclable. We have four (4) different companies in Putnam Valley that handle our recyclables and we are trying to contact these companies to make sure they all handle everything in the same way. What is coming out is due to the Corona Virus the demand for products made from recyclables has gone down because they can sometimes be more expensive. She would like the Town to try to buy recycled products whenever possible. We need less garbage in our landfills which poisons our environment. Supervisor Oliverio said this is a great idea.

**DISCUSSION: POLITICAL SIGNAGE**

Presented by Supervisor Oliverio

Supervisor Oliverio said he would like to add some amendments to Town Code §163-5 which is the Political Signage Law. He would like to formalize this and have a Public Hearing on this and the Sound Ordinance. The only changes being made to the current law is when putting political signage up on a public right of way, they can only be placed there for up to 45 days prior to any election, and they must come down within five (5) days. This does not include private property that would be up to the owner's discretion. Councilwoman Annabi said we should give them a week to take the signs down. Supervisor Oliverio felt that five (5) days were enough?

Supervisor Oliverio also feels the signs should be no more than 4'x4' which is 16 square feet. Councilman Smith said he measured a sign that most people put out and they are three (3) square feet – they seem large enough – 16 square feet are big signs and there is really no need for that. Supervisor Oliverio said right now our law allows for signs that are 8'x4' which is 32 square feet – what he am proposing is ½ of that. If you are an unknown you may need a sign that large to get your name out. Supervisor Oliverio added that they will talk about it again. Councilwoman Annabi and Councilman Luongo thought that 4'x4' was okay. Councilwoman Whetsel said maybe the bigger signs could list multiple people on them. Councilwoman Annabi said in Dutchess County if you want to get a big sign like an 8'x4' you need a permit. Supervisor Oliverio does not want to do that. Councilman Smith and Councilman Luongo said when you get to an intersection sometimes peoples signs are on all four (4) sides of the intersection. Councilwoman Annabi said she doesn't see the need to make a law for something that only lasts a short period of time, we could suck it up for a little bit. Supervisor Oliverio said we need to get this codified, it will help us. We will do this in January as there is no election cycle coming up.

**APPROVAL OF THE CSEA CALENDAR FOR 2021**

Presented by Councilman Luongo

**RESOLUTION #R20-293**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to accept the 2021 CSEA Holiday Schedule.

Seconded by Councilwoman Whetsel, unanimously carried.



Town of Putnam Valley  
Unit 8151

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Executive Board  
Craig Cotone - President  
[ccotone@putnamvalley.com](mailto:ccotone@putnamvalley.com)  
Ray Gallagher- Vice President  
[rgallagher@putnamvalley.com](mailto:rgallagher@putnamvalley.com)

Executive Board  
Margaret Bradley- Treasurer  
[mbradley@putnamvalley.com](mailto:mbradley@putnamvalley.com)  
Annie Spinelli-Secretary  
[aspinelli@putnamvalley.com](mailto:aspinelli@putnamvalley.com)

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**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD  
**FROM:** CRAIG COTONE, CSEA PRESIDENT  
**SUBJECT:** 2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE  
**DATE:** OCTOBER \_\_, 2020  
**CC:** SHERRY HOWARD- TOWN CLERK

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The CSEA Union respectfully requests the following holidays as per our contract:

January 1	Friday	New Year's Day
January 18	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 15	Monday	President's Day
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day
July 5	Monday	Independence Day
September 6	Monday	Labor Day
October 11	Monday	Columbus Day
November 11	Thursday	Veteran's Day
November 25	Thursday	Thanksgiving
November 26	Friday	Day after Thanksgiving
December 24	Friday	Christmas Eve
**December 27	Saturday (Monday)	Christmas Day
December 31	Friday	New Year's Eve

\* Holiday falls on a weekend- Union Requests an alternative date

**APPROVE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PURCHASE OF A DRUM ROLLER**

Presented by Councilwoman Annabi

**RESOLUTION #R20-294**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorize Highway Superintendent Cobb to purchase a 2019 Tandem drum roller for \$41,595.62. This purchase is within his budget.

Seconded by Councilman Smith, unanimously carried.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT- OCTOBER 2020**

Presented by Councilwoman Whetsel

**RESOLUTION #R20-295**

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



11/2/2020

5a

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

From 10/1/2020 To 10/31/2020

Fee Type	Count	Amount
ADDITIONAL ALTERATION	6	\$3,524.00
DECK	1	\$173.00
ELECTR: APP/RY ELEC	13	\$390.00
ELECTRIC APP/S/MS	13	\$390.00
FENCE/WALL	1	\$75.00
GAS/PROPANE	8	\$600.00
GENERATOR PERMIT	13	\$1,050.00
HVAC	7	\$525.00
IN GROUND POOL	1	\$525.00
MG	6	\$450.00
MI	3	\$225.00
OIL TANK	12	\$1,050.00
OPERATING PERMIT	1	\$100.00
PERM	8	\$1,442.00
PL	4	\$300.00
RE	6	\$2,808.00
SEARC	20	\$3,000.00
SOLAR PANELS	1	\$183.00
WETAOM	2	\$100.00
WETL	2	\$300.00
WT/S	2	\$200.00
<b>Total Fees Collected:</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>\$17,410.00</b>
<b>Cash</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>
<b>Check</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>\$17,230.00</b>

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi, unanimously carried.

**PARKS AND RECREATION REFUNDS**

Presented by Councilman Smith

**RESOLUTION #R20-296**

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

Christina Leitmann                      \$20.00  
12 Lakefront Road                      Programs  
Putnam Valley, NY 10579              Adult costume party – date changed  
Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi, unanimously carried

**AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH HENNINGSON,  
DURHAM & RICHARDSON ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING**

Presented by Councilman Luongo

**RESOLUTION #R20-297**

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Putnam Valley Town Board approve the fee schedule for HDR Environmental Consulting Services. HDR will assist the Planning Board with new telecommunications and other environmental projects that need review.

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi for discussion.

Councilwoman Annabi said don't we already have an Engineer and a Consulting Firm. She added that this contract is not specific. Supervisor Oliverio said this is specialized stuff and we have a couple of projects coming up. It's a necessary contract and the payment is per diem. This project needs a hydro engineer and that is what this firm provides.

Seconded by Councilwoman Annabi for discussion, unanimously carried

**ACCEPT TOWN BOARD MINUTES**

Presented by Councilwoman Annabi

**RESOLUTION #R20-298**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to approve the minutes from the October 14<sup>th</sup>, October 21<sup>st</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Town Board Meetings.

Seconded by Councilman Luongo, unanimously carried

**AUDIT OF MONTHLY BILLS**

Presented by Councilwoman Whetsel

**RESOLUTION #R20-299**

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

**VOUCHER NUMBERS**

N/A

**AMOUNTS**

N/A

Seconded by Councilman Luongo, unanimously carried.

**BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS**

Presented by Councilman Smith

**RESOLUTION #R20-300**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approve the following budget transfers and amendments:

Date Prepared: 11/16/2020 08:13 AM

**TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY**  
**Budget Adjustment Form**

GLR4150 1.0  
Page 1 of 1

Year: 2020 Period: 11 Trans Type: B1 - Transfer Status: Posted  
 Trans No: 113435 Trans Date: 11/16/2020 User Ref: MANGELICO  
 Requested: Approved: Created by: MANGELICO 11/16/2020  
 Description: BUDGET TRANSFERS THROUGH 11/16/2020 Account # Order: Yes  
 Print Parent Account: No

Account No.	Account Description	Amount
A.1010.400	TOWN BOARD.PLANNING/LEGAL CONSULTING	382.50
A.1010.416	TOWN BOARD.DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	1,650.00
A.1110.200	JUSTICE COURT.EQUIPMENT	-616.00
A.1110.424	JUSTICE COURT.CONTRACTUAL	616.00
A.1355.400	ASSESSMENT.PREP TAX ROLL	1,347.16
A.1355.410	ASSESSMENT.SPFC LEGAL EXP	-1,347.16
A.1355.410	ASSESSMENT.SPEC LEGAL EXP	-1,450.00
A.1420.400	LAW.SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL	1,450.00
A.1680.200	DATA PROCESSING.EQUIPMENT	535.37
A.1990.400	CONTINGENT ACCOUNT	-2,032.50
A.1990.400	CONTINGENT ACCOUNT	-535.37
A.1990.400	CONTINGENT ACCOUNT	-147.44
A.5010.421	HIGHWAY SUPT.PERSONAL EXPENSE	-76.42
A.5010.424	HIGHWAY SUPT.CONTRACTUAL	76.42
A.7022.400	CAMP.SUPPLIES	-3,395.97
A.7022.401	CAMP MAINTENANCE CONTRACTUAL	3,395.97
A.7110.200	PARKS.EQUIPMENT	522.73
A.7110.400	PARKS CONTRACTUAL	-522.73
A.7110.400	PARKS.CONTRACTUAL	-58.00
A.7110.410	PARKS.VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	58.00
A.8090	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL	147.44
DA.5112.200	IMPROVEMENTS.CAPITAL OUTLAY	-29,540.00
DA.5130.200	MACHINERY.EQUIPMENT	29,540.00
SM01.1640.210	GARAGE TIRES	2,780.00
SM01.1640.425	GARAGE FUEL OIL	-2,790.00
SM01.8160.431	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL	534.37
SM01.8320.472	WATER.MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	-534.37
SM04.7110.120	RECREATION.LIFEGUARDS	-341.06
SM04.7180.410	BEACH.TAGS & PARKING STICKERS	341.06
SM05.7180.410	BEACH.TAGS & PARKING STICKERS	-49.00
SM05.7180.471	BEACH.MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	49.00
<b>Total Amount:</b>		<u>0.00</u>

Date Prepared: 11/16/2020 08:16 AM

**TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY**  
**Budget Adjustment Form**

GLR4150 1.0  
Page 1 of 1

Year: 2020 Period: 11 Trans Type: B2 - Amend Status: Posted  
 Trans No: 113436 Trans Date: 11/16/2020 User Ref: MANGELICO  
 Requested: Approved: Created by: MANGELICO 11/16/2020  
 Description: BUDGET AMENDMENTS THROUGH 11/16/2020 Account # Order: Yes  
 Print Parent Account: No

Account No.	Account Description	Amount
SM01.9035.800	MEDICARE	180.04
SM02.7180.471	PARK & POOL MAINTENANCE	2,279.00
SW01.8320.416	WATER PURCHASE	4,217.84
<b>Total Amount:</b>		<b>6,676.88</b>

Seconded by Councilman Luongo, unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Annabi said Boy Scout Troop 41 will be selling wreaths at Oregon Shell and the Putnam Valley Market this weekend. They start at 8 am and they will be there until they sell out. Boy Scout Troop 353 will be selling trees and wreaths starting on November 28<sup>th</sup> until December 6<sup>th</sup>, only on the weekends. On December 4<sup>th</sup> the Parks and Recreation Department will be holding their annual tree lighting in the Town Park. You must reserve your spot due to Covid – 845-526-3292. Only 50 individuals will be allowed to attend.

Councilwoman Annabi said we are a small bedroom community and we always ask our small businesses to chip in with a gift certificate or whatever they can give to help. It's our turn now to remind these small businesses that we are here for them as well. Shop Local. Get your gift certificates, we have a groomer, restaurants, delis, flower shop, liquor store, nail salon and a lot of places we can get our gifts from. Support your friends and neighbors.

Councilman Smith said he would like to bring something forward that is a concern of his. Putnam County passed their 164 million dollar budget just recently, and the public should take a look at it. There are some cuts in it to some departments that you may be interested in. Councilman Smith was upset to see that at the very late moment a 2.4% raise was added to the salary of our elected County Legislators. This is a blatant disregard for the people in our County and in our Town who pay for all of that. This is very disrespectful to the people who are trying to pay their mortgages and/or their rents, and are trying to put food on the table and take care of their families, this is inexcusable to do at this time. Councilman Smith continued with a message for the people in our Town, we crafted a budget in this Town that the people in this room can be proud of. It is the first one (1) in years that is below the tax cap.

This was done with a lot of effort, a lot of work and a lot of debate. Not one (1) person in this room ever thought to give themselves a raise. Some people would just let this go but this is not right.

Councilman Smith suggested that County Legislator Gouldman come to our Town and find some people in need; such as the Food Pantry or any other organizations and donate his 2.4% increase every year to them. He will help him find somebody or somewhere to donate because this is unacceptable for our Legislators to take a raise in this very needy pandemic time.

Supervisor Oliverio said he is on the same page as Councilman Smith. He was hoping that one (1) of the Legislators showed up this evening so he could ask them what their opinion was. He would have liked some clarification as to what County Legislator Gouldman voted on and what he did not. Supervisor Oliverio said there was money given to a couple of our Elected Officials, but he would not consider them raises, it's a matter of semantics, but we never gave ourselves a raise. Councilwoman Annabi did not agree with Supervisor Oliverio and said they did give raises to certain Elected Officials. Supervisor Oliverio said it was not a raise and if you look at the budget for next year they will be making exactly what they are making this year. Councilwoman Annabi said we gave raises above their base pay. Supervisor Oliverio said their base pay was raised to compensate what was lost, which was their Union Benefits. Councilwoman Annabi said this was something that they shouldn't have gotten and you are opening up a can of worms. They are Elected Officials end of story. Supervisor Oliverio said you are mixing apples and oranges. Councilwoman Annabi said those particular Elected Officials cannot give themselves a raise that is our job. Supervisor Oliverio said he did raise their base salary but only to what they made this year so this is not a raise. Councilwoman Annabi vehemently disagreed and said those Union Benefits should never have been given to them in the first place. Supervisor Oliverio said to the residents, if you concerned about this please request a copy of the 2020 Budget and the 2021 Budget and look at the salaries. Councilwoman Annabi said and ask for the breakdown of the base salaries. Supervisor Oliverio said we create the base salary and the Union Benefits are no longer there.

Councilman Smith said with a lot of debate and disagreement our Town Board came in under the tax cap for the first time in years and I am very happy about that. Lots of people will struggle having to compensate for the raises at the County level.

Councilwoman Annabi said we took money out of our fund balance to cover those increases. She continued, in regards to that budget with the County, the Sheriff's Department will still be monitoring Lake Oscawana. Lake Mahopac is now being monitored by Carmel PD.

Supervisor Oliverio thanked George Stockinger for all the work he has done at our United States Post Office. George is retiring next Friday, you have put in a ton of years. Thank you for all the great work you have done. Enjoy your retirement.

Town Clerk Howard said due to the Covid restrictions for Tax Collection in January we will not be able to take cash. There is a mailbox by the front door where you can put your checks and we will mail you a receipt. You can also pay on-line or send your checks in by mail. Money orders and bank checks are acceptable. Check payments are free and Credit Card payments are 2.5% added which goes to the credit card company not the Town.

Councilwoman Annabi said Boy Scout Troop 41 Master, Dave Uchetel, has been the Troop Master for a long time. He has been a basketball coach as well. He is finally stepping down. With Covid we cannot give everyone a certificate but we do want to express our thanks for all the hard work you do for our community. We have given out tons of Eagle Scout Awards. It's because of people like Dave we have such great gentlemen in our community.

Supervisor Oliverio moved to adjourn the Town Board Meeting at 6:54 PM.

Seconded by Councilwoman Whetsel, unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted



Sherry Howard  
Town Clerk  
11-23-2020

