

PATTERSON TOWN BOARD MEETING
PATTERSON TOWN HALL
1142 ROUTE 311
PATTERSON, NEW YORK 12563
January 15, 2014

MINUTES

PRESENT: MICHAEL GRIFFIN, SUPERVISOR
KEVIN BURNS, COUNCILMAN
CHARLES W. COOK, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR
PETER DANDREANO, COUNCILMAN
ROBERT MCCARTHY, COUNCILMAN
ANTOINETTE KOPECK, TOWN CLERK
DONALD M. ROSSI, TOWN COUNSEL

Salute to the Flag and Roll Call.

Supervisor Griffin called the Patterson Town Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with 19 in attendance.

REPORTS

Mr. Griffin asked the clerk to file the reports as read.

Code Compliance - December
Code Enforcement - December
Dog Control Officer - December
E.C.I. - October, November
Putnam Lake Fire Dept. - None
Patterson Fire Dept.-None

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

None

MINUTES

Mr. Cook made a **motion** to approve the following minutes:

Town Board Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2013
Town Board Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2013

Seconded by Mr. Burns. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

AUDIT OF BILLS

Mr. Cook made a **motion** to accept Abstract No. 24 as written:

General Fund \$178,204.21, Highway Fund \$20,619.10, Putnam Lake Fire District \$1,125.00, Patterson Fire District \$1,125.00, Waste Water Treatment Plant \$17,343.34, Drainage \$325.00, Putnam Lake Light District \$2,650.73, Patterson Light District \$2,589.89, Putnam Lake Refuse District #1 \$21,804.55, Patterson Refuse District #2 \$5,023.87, Deerwood Drainage District \$343.37, Patterson Park District \$3,570.11, Putnam Lake Park District \$2,771.90, Alpine Water District \$2,955.19, Dorset Hollow Water District \$2,349.58, Fox Run Water District \$2,096.40, Trust & Agency \$300.00, Grand Total Abstract \$265,197.24.

Seconded by Mr. Burns. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burns, yes; Mr. Cook, yes; Mr. Dandreano, yes; Mr. McCarthy, yes; Mr. Griffin, yes.

CHARLES COOK

SEQRA – PUTNAM COUNTY HIGHWAY

Mr. Cook stated we received a letter from the Putnam County Law Department asking us to sign off on their action to be the lead agency in a storm water improvement project located at 842 Fair Street in Patterson. They want to do drainage work on their property and they are looking for our approval. They filled out a short environmental assessment form. It looks like it is in order.

Mr. Cook made a **motion** for the Town Board to authorize the Supervisor to sign and send back the required paperwork to the Putnam County Law Department.

Seconded by Mr. Burns. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

WINDWARD HOLDING CORP – PB RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Cook stated the Town Board received a request from Windward Holding Corporation asking for a zoning change on Route 311 just north of Bear Hill Road. It was forwarded to the Planning Board. They met with the applicant and reviewed the application and they said that they told the applicant that they were not in a position to approve or deny the application without a study being done by New York State Department of Transportation that would encompass a valuation of a road geometry and any needed road improvements that must come from that agency. They feel they do not have sufficient information and if the applicant chooses to move forward with a further analysis of the potential impacts on Route 311, the Board can revisit this request for a zoning change. He wants to change it from residential to a commercial medial building.

ROBERT MCCARTHY

GOLDEN AGE SENIORS' REQUEST(S)

Mr. McCarthy made a **motion** to approve the Westchester Broadway Theater Rag Time on April 3, 2014 for transportation and tickets in an amount not to exceed \$1,138.00.

Seconded by Mr. Dandreano. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. McCarthy made a **motion** to approve the Westchester Broadway Theater Mary Poppins on June 12, 2014 for transportation and tickets in an amount not to exceed \$1,138.00.

Seconded by Mr. Dandreano. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. McCarthy made a **motion** to approve a trip to Ace in the Hole on August 6, 2014 for transportation and tickets in an amount not to exceed \$1,062.00.

Seconded by Mr. Dandreano. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. McCarthy made a **motion** to approve the Westchester Broadway Theater to see South Pacific on October 2, 2014 for transportation and tickets in an amount not to exceed \$1,138.00.

Seconded by Mr. Dandreano. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

RENTAL REGISTRATION LAW - DISCUSSION

Mr. McCarthy stated we have a letter from the Director of Codes Enforcement Fire Inspector regarding the Rental Registration Law that is on the books right now in the Town of Patterson. The problem we have is we have no way to enforce it due to a court case that doesn't allow our Building Inspector to go in and verify that they are compliant with our fire laws. Basically we have a Rental Registration Law that we cannot inspect. I got this information from Rich Williams.

Mr. Williams stated there was a court decision that said they cannot do inspections.....

Mr. Donald Rossi, Town Counsel stated cannot mandate as a condition as having an approval under the Rental Registration Law that there be an inspection.

Mr. McCarthy stated could we still give a permit.

Mr. Rossi stated you can give a permit, you can request that the landowner voluntarily permit an inspection. You can't require as a condition of the permit issuance that there be an inspection. The Town also has the ability in cases where they perceive or have cause to believe that an occupancy might be illegal, they have the ability to apply to the local court for a search warrant to inspect that rental property. The condition that there be an inspection prior to issuance of the permit has been determined to be unconstitutional in one of the higher courts in the state. We had submitted a memo on this sometime ago. Rich reviewed it and made some recommendations for amendments for the law and we can work with him on that.

Mr. McCarthy stated the law will still be in effect.

Mr. Rossi stated yes, the law will remain in effect. It will be valid and there will be a need to register. The concept of the law is a very good one because it gives the Town an alert that a house is being used for multiple occupancy and the Town records could be checked to determine whether or not it is permitted in the event it is a multi-family occupancy. So, it is a very good tool for the Town and the Building Department to have it at its disposal.

Mr. Williams stated Don and I worked together and we did tinker with it and made some revisions. You sent it over to the Building Department and that's where it stopped. Councilman Cook asked me what happened to it and that is where it stopped.

Mr. McCarthy stated so we can pursue it and get it into the books properly.

Mr. Williams stated if you want to put it into local law form, we can do that. If you want to refer it back to the Building Department and see if you can get comments.

Conversation ensued.

MICHAEL GRIFFIN

PAYROLL HOURS FOR SALARIED PART-TIME EMPLOYEES - RESOLUTION

Mr. Griffin introduced the following **Resolution Confirming Status of Salaried Part-Time Employees Under the Affordable Care Act:**

R-0114-01

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act imposes certain requirements on employers to provide access to health insurance coverage to "full-time" employees, which is defined for said purposes as an employee who works 30 hours or more per week; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to confirm for the purposes of the Affordable Care Act that certain part-time salaried employees of the Town of Patterson will not work for thirty (30) hours or more per week throughout the 2014 calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to impose a requirement that certain part-time employees promptly file a log with the Town Clerk that contains daily details of the hours worked and duties performed for the first three (3) months in such part-time position, in conformance with the requirements imposed by the New York State Retirement System, regardless of each such employee's enrollment in the New York State Retirement System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Patterson hereby confirms that the employees in the following part-time salaried positions may not work thirty (30) hours or more per week throughout the 2014 calendar year:

1. Town Board Councilmembers (positions currently held by Charles Cook, Kevin Burns, Peter Dandreano and Robert McCarthy);
2. Town Justices (positions currently held by Hon. Anthony Molé and Hon. John King);
3. Park Board Chairperson (position currently held by Caroline Wiezenecker);
4. Dog Control Officer (position currently held by Alan Jacknick);
5. Refuse Administrator/Recycling Worker (position currently held by Frank Farrell); and
6. Environmental Park Maintenance Worker (position currently held by Richard Saracelli); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Patterson hereby establishes a requirement that the employees in the above part-time salaried positions file a log with the Town Clerk that contains daily details of the hours worked and duties performed, in conformance with the requirements imposed by the New York State Retirement System, regardless of each such employee's enrollment in the New York State Retirement System; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Patterson hereby authorizes and directs the Supervisor to execute any and all documents necessary to give effect to this Resolution.

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

COMPTROLLER'S MEMO – 2014 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Griffin stated as per the Town Comptroller's memo of December 31, 2013 see the above resolution regarding 2014 salary adjustments for the same people noted above.

Mr. Griffin made a **motion** to approve payroll rates of Recreation Employees and new hires as per the Town Comptroller's memo of December 19, 2013.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

STIPEND FOR SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Griffin made a **motion** that we approve a \$1,500.00 stipend for the Chairperson of the Safety Committee, Susan Brown.

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy.

Mr. Burns stated is that budgeted or not.

Mr. Griffin stated I found the money.

Mr. Cook stated we will have a job description.

Mr. Griffin stated yes, we are in the process of working that out. Sue and Margaux are putting together a training schedule and working with PERMA, Spain Agency and probably by February we will have identified all the areas of training we need to get into compliance where we just spent approximately \$500.00 on posters, so we have all new up to date posters. We had some issues in the past with the Department of Labor and PERMA. Our rates are based on a point system. If you don't do all the necessary training and all of the safety meetings, you don't get the maximum amount of points. To avoid having any of those issues, I want to have a full-time employee and someone who will be responsible to make sure all of these things take place going forward.

Mr. Cook stated we should be getting reports every month.

Mr. Griffin stated either monthly or quarterly or she can come to the meetings and speak in public. I think it is very important. We have been a little lax in the past. Shawn will be a big help to us because he does a lot of this for the County. It's a good team in place and they should get extra compensation because there will be extra training and responsibilities.

All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Mr. Griffin stated he will defer Executive Session – Personnel until the end of the meeting.

KEVIN BURNS

TOWN CODE AMENDMENT – PL PARK DISTRICT

Mr. Burns stated at the end of last year we received feedback from the Putnam Lake Advisory Board regarding proposed changes to Section 116 which governs that board. As a Board we have discussed those and favor making those changes.

Mr. Burns introduced the following **Resolution Introducing Local Law I-1 of 2014 and Providing for Public Notice and Hearing – Putnam Lake Park District:**

R-0114-02

BE IT RESOLVED that an amendment to Patterson Town Code Chapter 116, entitled "Putnam Lake Park District", is hereby introduced by Kevin Burns, as Introductory Local Law No. I-1 of the year 2014 before the Town Board of the Town of Patterson in the County of Putnam and State of New York, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed Amendment, which is attached hereto, be laid upon the desk of each member of the Board, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a public hearing on said proposed Amendment at the Town Hall, in the Town of Patterson, New York at 7:00 o'clock P.M. on February 12, 2014, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper of the Town of Patterson of said public hearing at least five (5) days prior thereto.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

PUTNAM LAKE WINTER GATHERING

Mr. Dede Lifgren stated my apologies for not sending a memo on this. The Friends of Putnam Lake is a committee that is formed in Putnam Lake and wants to bring some social events to the community. This is separate from the Park District and the Park District funds but work in conjunction with the Park District. The first one for the year is this winter gathering. It is very similar to what happened last year. They came to the Board and asked if they can use the facilities for the purpose of having the community event this year. What is necessary for them to do that.

Mr. Burns stated in terms of an application.

Ms. Lifgren stated yes, it is going to be similar to last year, exactly the same activities, but they are actually sponsoring the event. They will be sponsoring several events through the year.

Mr. Burns stated is there any alcohol served.

Ms. Lifgren stated no.

Mr. Burns stated what did we do last time.

Ms. Lifgren stated the interesting part is the skating on the lake. Last year as you know there was a disclaimer as a Town event and this year it is working in conjunction with, but sponsored by this committee and it is going to be done this way every year.

Mr. Burns stated it is scheduled for February 1st, so we have one more meeting until then. Don you can get back to us before then.

Mr. Rossi, Town Counsel stated yes.

Mr. McCarthy stated do you see any issues that it wouldn't go forward.

Mr. Burns stated I know you drafted the waiver last year.

Mr. Rossi stated I don't anticipate it will be significantly different, but I do want to take a look at it and review the file and see what we said. We'll get on it right away.

RECREATION REQUEST(S)

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to approve a Non-Bid Procurement request for 93 reversal flag football jerseys. The lowest bidder was YBA Shirts in an amount not to exceed \$990.45.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to approve a Non-Bid Procurement request for 69 cheerleader uniforms from Steve Dinucci in an amount not to exceed \$759.00.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to approve a Non-Bid Procurement request for 95 "T"-shirts with a logo for Patterson Bowling Program. Steve Dinucci was the lowest bidder in an amount not to exceed \$522.50.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to approve 95 flag football coach and referee shirts with a logo on the front. The lowest bidder was Steve Dinucci for a sum not to exceed \$524.00.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER(S)

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to approve 2013 Budget Transfers No. 58 and 2014 No. 1 – No. 4:

Budget Transfer No. 58

From:	GWTP.8130.400	Sewer Treatment Contractual- Unallocated	(\$2,610.00)
To:	GWTP.8130.407	Sewer Treatment Contractual- Sludge Removal	\$2,610.00

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Budget Transfer No. 1

From:	A.9060.800	Employee Benefits: Hosps & Medical Ins	(\$9,697.00)
To:	A.9040.800	Employee Benefits: Workers Compensation	\$9,697.00

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Budget Transfer No. 2

From:	SP.9010.800	Employee Benefits: State Retirement	(\$189.00)
To:	SP.9040.800	Employee Benefits: Workers Compensation	\$189.00
From:	SPL.9010.800	Employee Benefits: State Retirement	(\$1,013.00)
To:	SPL.9040.800	Employee Benefits: Workers Compensation	\$1,013.00

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Budget Transfer No. 3

Increase:	FL.0599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$2,196.00
		Fund Balance	
Increase:	FL.9040.800	Workers Compensation	\$2,196.00
		Expense Accounts	

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Budget Transfer No. 4

Increase:	FP.0599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$3,316.00
		Fund Balance	
Increase:	FP.9040.800	Workers Compensation	\$3,316.00
		Expense Accounts	

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

PETER DANDREANO

STREET LIGHT – INDIAN HILL ROAD

Mr. Dandreano stated I have a letter from the Town Planner, Rich Williams stating that he received a call on December 4th from a resident on Indian Hill Road that the street light at the intersection of Indian Hill Road and Farm to Market Road was struck by a vehicle and damaged. The Town Planner went out there and assessed the damage and stated that it needed to be replaced and fixed immediately for the safety of that intersection.

Mr. Williams stated the light is ordered, it's not up yet.

MESSAGE BOARD – DISCUSSION

Mr. Dandreano stated this discussion started before I was on the Board, but I attended many meetings and was part of a lot of the discussion that went on. The original proposal was for the Fire Department to erect a message board on their property, a separate parcel, asking to be exempt to put it up. The Town Board had a lot of good valid concerns on the sign board and I think it went from having the Fire Department put it up to putting it up at Town Hall to having portable message signs. I've looked into this a lot and I wanted to bring up my point of view from being involved with the Putnam Traffic Safety Board and Emergency Preparedness and my experience.

Mr. Dandreano stated I think it would be a waste of money to buy the portable signs. The portable signs wouldn't be utilized often. They would be sitting down at the Town garage and when we do need them in a great emergency, who is going to bring them out, are they going to work when we bring them out and I think it is a waste of money that they are sitting there and used only in a major emergency. I think we would get more out of our money if we had a sign that was used more often. If someone is going to purchase a sign, I think that we should get more use out of it than them sitting down at the Town garage. We can use them for a community bulletin board and other stuff.

Mr. Dandreano continued, if we do allow the Fire Department to erect it, I think in my opinion it would be better. I don't think we would want to get into purchasing it, maintaining it and billing it. I think it would be better if the Fire Department did it. If we put some strict guidelines on it, the Town will have access to it in an emergency that is what the whole thing is for. I think we could write it into our emergency preparedness plan that it is our official message board in the event of an emergency. It would give residents a place to go and look for information. I know we have NY Alert, but not everyone is signed up for that. We should limit the messages to five or six at a time. If you have too many messages it would become distracting to drivers. I think it would be more distracting at Town Hall because it is at a four way intersection. At the Fire Department location, you have a long viewing period where you can take more time to view it.

Conversation ensued.

Mr. Griffin stated I think we should revisit this whole thing.

Mr. Burns stated I don't think anyone has a problem with the Fire Department having a sign. There are two ways to accomplish this. We either exempt them from zoning, which is their proposal or they merge the two lots which was our proposal. Which would then allow them to do whatever they want with the sign. Neither party wants to take either of those courses of action for their own reasons.

Mr. Cook stated I would like to see the guidelines that would be set down. I think it has to be more formalized; I think that the point about other organizations wanting to put up a sign has to be controlled in some way if we are going to go along with this application. Of course, the message board would be great, but again, it is laying down the guidelines so everyone knows what's what. People come and go in positions on the Town Board and the Fire Department, so that there is no misunderstanding as we go down the road, and that other organizations understand they can use it, but they are not getting their own. Other issues or points that were brought up by the Planning Board relative to alternative ways are all good. The bulletin board can have messages on there for signing up for NY Alert. Basically the key thing is to have a sign wherever you want to put it, by Town Hall or the Fire Department property, that it meets the aesthetic controls of the Town and the guidelines have to be in place so it is handled properly and people are not at each other's throats.

Mr. Griffin stated I'll be happy to work with the Fire Department as long as I'm getting direction from the Town Board that this is going to be seriously considered. I'm not going to waste Eleanor's time or my time for something we are not going to consider.

Ms. Eleanor Smith, President of the Patterson Fire Department stated regarding the zoning variance, we did try but the joining of the two properties there was one issue, we cannot meet the criteria set by the state that we had to show undue hardship because we are a not-for-profit organization, and we are not a business.

Conversation ensued.

Mr. Griffin stated I will call Eleanor and make a plan.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Cook stated our colleague to my right will be going to the Association of Towns in February and they say that in order for your Towns delegate to vote at the annual business

meeting, the Town Board must adopt a resolution designating a delegate. With Kevin going down he can represent our Town. I think it's only proper that we do pass a resolution naming him a delegate from the Town of Patterson and let him vote as he sees fit relative to all the resolutions that the Association of Towns will present.

Mr. Cook made a **motion** to name Kevin Burns as the Town of Patterson delegate for the annual business meeting of the Association of Towns.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. Cook stated regarding the Merlotto property, what are we supposed to be doing.

Mr. Rossi stated what you are supposed to be doing is following up on the court decision and authorizing the appropriate action to enforce the court's decision against it. It was an appellate decision in the Towns favor prior to when we were attorneys to the Town, but there is an enforceable decision to correct the existing violations as determined by the court on the property. Appropriate action would have to be commenced in the event the landowner continues to refuse to comply.

Mr. Cook stated ok, we got this letter from our Fire Marshall on this subject and he is seeking direction so we can take appropriate action to satisfy the outstanding appellate court decision, but there is no court decision.

Mr. Rossi stated we have extensively obtained all the files on it and we can go over it with you Charlie and go through it.

Mr. Cook stated I don't understand all the background.

Mr. Rossi stated ok, we will go through it later.

Mr. Cook stated I just want to mention that I passed by Thunder Ridge Ski area and the now vacant restaurant on that driveway that Mike mentioned, there are cars parked up and down. I think Mike, if you can mention something to one of our Code Enforcement Officers that they have to get out there and enforce what is going on. Dave Raines sent both owners of those properties the good and bad of what to do.

Mr. Dandreano stated are there no parking signs along that road.

Mr. Cook stated I'm not sure. A letter from the Code Compliance Officer stated, "Any vehicles parked in this access road will be towed at the vehicle owner's expense. Please refrain from directing any patrons to your establishment to park in this area". We are also requesting the Putnam County National Bank post "No Parking, Fire Lane" signs in a designated area to support the enforcement of the "No Parking" in this area. This weekend the cars were parked all over the place.

Mr. McCarthy stated whose parking lot is it, Wings and Things or Thunder Ridge. That's the problem.

Mr. Cook stated we just started at Wings and Things.

Mr. Williams stated the problem is it is not a parking lot, it's a driveway. The problem is at this point, somebody, I'm not going to say which party, is using it as a parking lot without valid site plan approval, without going through the process, without ensuring there is a fire lane to pass emergency vehicles through. At times, because of that and all the parking that is going on, it is not passable. The same situation is occurring on Thunder Ridge Road. They are parking behind the "No Parking" signs, they are parking in areas that are not appropriate and jam up the roads so emergency vehicles cannot get through.

Mr. Cook stated will we have the Town Hall generator on the agenda for the next meeting to go out to bid.

Mr. Griffin stated the Town Planner assured me that the bid specs will be ready for the end of the month.

Mr. Cook stated regarding Mercy College, Putnam County Emergency Management school, we approved sending one person. Who will be going.

Mr. Griffin stated I thought we said Pete. I thought that is what we agreed on.

Mr. Cook stated I wasn't sure what we agreed on.

Mr. Griffin stated I thought we agreed that we would send one person and since they wanted an Elected Official.....

Mr. Cook stated I thought it was going to be Pete or Rich Williams.

Mr. Griffin stated what we took away from the presentation was that they would prefer an Elected Official. At least that is what I got out of it but if you got a different take on it.....

Mr. Cook stated my only take is that Pete with his job in lower Westchester, he's down there and the emergency is up here, I don't know how flexible you can be. That is my only point.

Mr. Dandreano stated I believe the County is able to get us some of the grant money to help supplement some of the tuition. I think it is \$1,000.00 or \$1,500.00.

Mr. Cook stated that is not my point.

Mr. Dandreano stated no, I know, I just wanted to throw that in there. I'm not on patrol anymore, I am in an administrative role. The last storm I didn't even go into work because I couldn't get out of my driveway.

Mr. Williams stated you have valid concerns but the way we left it was Pete was the one that would sign up for the course and take it and I backed off from that.

Mr. Cook stated would you be his back-up because you guys will be working on an emergency plan for the Town, right.

Mr. Williams stated one can go to the course.

Mr. Cook stated I don't mean it that way. He can come back and share everything with you and you are developing a emergency management plan, right.

Mr. Williams stated I'm sure Pete and I will be working very closely on this.

Mr. Dandreano stated I'll be sharing it with everyone, all the departments and I'll do some training with some of the departments.

Mr. Griffin stated I think the point Charlie is working at is that it is a 6 month, 10 hour a week commitment. That is a big commitment. Are you okay with that.

Mr. Dandreano stated yes.

Mr. Griffin stated I have a Public Service Announcement that has been brought to our attention by our new Receiver of Taxes. The Post Office may have dropped the ball on tax bills. One of our Councilmen insisted that he get his tax bill because he didn't get one in the mail. Apparently quite a number of people never received their tax bills. My point is, unfortunately while the Post Office may have dropped the ball, the responsibility still falls to the homeowner and the bill has to be paid on time. If it isn't, there is by law, no wiggle room and there is an immediate 10% penalty and then it accumulates from there. If you have not received your tax bill that you normally get by now, please contact the Receiver of Taxes office, Supervisor's Office or the Town Clerk's office and we will make sure you get a tax bill. We don't know what happened, but quite a number of bills have not been received by residents.

Mr. Burns stated there was apparently a change in how our mail was processed. I think it always went to Poughkeepsie and now our mail goes to Albany. When I was running for re-election I sent some mailers out and after the election I got some back. There are significant issues with the processing in Albany. I don't know if that explains it, but I know all the bills were mailed at the end of last year and should have been in the mailboxes in early January.

Mr. Griffin stated they are probably in New Jersey. Everyone in Albany is probably saying, Patterson, that's New Jersey.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Mr. Majors stated Mike, once again you looked at the camera and said the folks here and the three people who watch it on television about the tax bills. Two things; what is the circulation rate of the Courier in Patterson, because that is the publication you are using for Public Notices and number 2 wouldn't it be wise, if it is a concern, I did get my tax bill and we both share Jason so who knows what happened, maybe some letters should go to the local publications such as this gentlemen and get something into the local papers basically suggesting to people if you didn't get your tax bill who to contact.

Mr. Griffin stated Patterson may not be the only Town this is a problem in.

Mr. Majors stated exactly, but it would be nice to get the word out rather than just here.

Mr. Griffin stated we should ask Peter Riebold to put something up on the website and see if we can get a press release out to the papers.

Mr. Cook stated it just so happens that I had a conversation with Antoinette Kopeck, Town Clerk today and we were talking about Public Notices going into the Courier and we also spoke about issuing Press Releases to go into other newspapers that will take them. While we have designated one paper, we will send Press Releases to the other papers in hopes that they get it in however they get them in.

Mr. Majors stated that would be great. About three years ago, the Town Board authorized the expenditure for a survey for the Master Plan. Now I realize not much has been done, but now that there is a full Board, is there any chance that this full Board is going to move on the Master Plan.

Mr. Burns stated I think the biggest hurdle for us is finding the money to do it. There was a comprehensive one that was done in Poughquag or in the past few years in an adjacent Town and it was done very well but the cost of hiring the outside consultant was over \$100,000.00. The issue is, we have some data we would like to look at, we may make some adjustments to codes or proposed adjustments to codes but doing a comprehensive plan like that right now is cost prohibitive with the restraints we have financially. We are somewhat limited in what we can do. It would be great if we had the money to go out and revise the plan more comprehensively, but I think finances are the barrier.

Mr. Majors stated there was also the issue raised over the last several months, specifically when the Fire Department wanted their sign about emergency preparedness for the Town and the fact that this should be included within whatever plan we have. I'm not suggesting that you have to go out and spend hundreds of thousands of dollars but you can certainly take the former plan that is now 13 or 14 years old, blow the dust off of it, look at the data that you have and see if there are areas that need to be improved from your old plan. That is all I am suggesting and take a look at the emergency management and how you are going to handle it.

Mr. Majors stated Mike, I do watch the local channel every so often. Back on December 19th there was a meeting, I'm not sure where it was held, but it included representatives from Towns in Putnam, even North Salem and County people, in reference to "refuse to energy." I was wondering if you or any member of the Board was at that meeting. They were talking about looking to process refuse to energy.

Mr. Griffin stated I was not. I am not sure that any of the Boards were. I don't remember seeing an invite to it. I would be happy to pursue it.

Mr. Majors stated I know Greg Ball was at the meeting. I don't know if he sponsored it. I only caught a portion of it. It seemed quite interesting. It is something they are actually looking to do over in Orange County and looking to bring it into Putnam County as well in the future. It's probably two or three years away. They are still getting their funding for Orange County.

Mr. Majors stated about six months ago I raised the issue about Mr. Williams doing all the work on the MS4 Program for the Associate Proof that you have. Have invoices been prepared and sent to that group so the Town can be reimbursed for his time.

Mr. Griffin stated not as of yet.

Mr. Majors stated could you give us a timetable.

Mr. Griffin stated I would have to discuss that with the Planner because he would be the only one who would have those records. I would be happy to work with him. If he gives me his hours, I'll be more than happy to make sure they get a bill. Now that I am President of the organization, I think we have a little more pull to get the bills paid.

Mr. Majors stated as the Supervisor you can tell him you need those hours.

Mr. Griffin stated I can only give him so many things. He has a lot on his plate.

Mr. Majors stated it's nice to see we are working with the Fire Department, but once again, I see on the agenda Fire Department reports; none. I've asked the question, "what reports are they required to submit." I have gone back over two years, neither Fire Department has anything. Maybe they don't know that they are supposed to give you reports and maybe they are not supposed to give you reports. Lastly, what is the status of the contracts with the two Fire Departments. I know there were some discussions at a Town Board meeting where contracts were being revised. One would hope if we are going forward with this sign we would have contracts with these Fire Departments.

Mr. Griffin stated as of right now the Patterson Fire Department contract is with their attorney's and the Putnam Lake Fire Department contract is with Volunteer Fireman's Association for review and comment. Hopefully we will have that within a week to ten days.

Mr. Williams stated just so everyone is aware the emergency response plan that the Town has to have in place is entirely separate from the comprehensive plan that we have to do. I have my staff currently working on updating all those plans. In fact, we have to have all the emergency response plans for the water districts into the Health Department by June of this year. Then I'll ask Pete and the Town Board to look at them.

Mr. Griffin stated and when you have some time can you dig out your hours for the MS4.

Mr. Williams stated we have to talk about parameters of what those hours are. I've done a lot of hours on a lot of different things.

Mr. Cook stated regarding the reports Bruce, the contract outline, the types of reports that are required by the State etc. are to be provided to the local municipality.

Mr. Majors stated thank you.

EXECUTIVE SESSION LEGAL

There being no further business, Mr. Burns made a **motion** to go into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to close Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.
Mr. Griffin called the meeting back to order at 9:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Burns made a **motion** to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Cook. All in favor: Aye. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Antoinette Kopeck, Town Clerk