

BOARD OF SELECTMAN UPDATE

August 17, 2015

PUTNAM REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PRA)

2013 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program

Work is progressing well, with 2 additional bids being awarded in August (7 homes in total).

Municipal Brownfield Pilot Program- Cargill Falls Mill

SITECON Corp is on site, all contracts have been signed and submittals in place. Five containments of hazardous materials have been approved by Eagle Environmental for proper removal and disposal. Scope of work for environmental haz mat has been scaled back because of funding and the property owner will seek other avenues with a phased-in approach. Brownfield clean up estimates were given in 2010 at nearly \$650,000 with the CT DECD award being \$500,000. Demolition will begin in phases after containment is completed. Baring no problems or concerns work should be completed by mid to late September.

CT Trust for Historic Preservation 'Making Places' Grant

The CT Trust for Historic Preservation and the consulting firm of CME Associates hosted the "Got Mill" presentation funded by the CT DECD and The Trust. Approximately 38 people were in attendance at The Crossings Restaurant. Participation representation included members of the Board of Selectman, Zoning Commission, Special Services District, Town Planner, Putnam Redevelopment Agency/Economic Development and the community at large. The detail of scope of work to conduct a Physical Assessment and Historic Investigation of the property has begun as well as documentation of historic conditions for the preparation of a National Register nomination.

Historic Brownfield Revitalization Program

The Putnam Redevelopment Agency has signed the Financial Assistance Proposal documents from the CT DECD for \$300,000. The commissioner will execute and work will then begin on the environmental, mechanical and structural conditions. This project will coincide with the Making Places grant for the Belding Corticelli Mill property.

Former Putnam Foundry (Palo Property)

Work progresses at a rapid pace on the property. All buildings (6 total) have been abated and demolished. Debris load out continues. Because of the low bid for the project, additional abatement including the removal of underground petroleum tanks and geo thermal imagery testing will be completed as Change Orders are processed. All work will be completed and

stabilized within 4 weeks. There have been considerable concerns with theft and vandalism and the Putnam Police have been asked to take extra patrols on evenings and weekends.

Incubator Building Update – 48 Industrial Park Rd.

Lighting upgrades and repairs will take place during the month of June/July based on the savings and recommendation of the energy audit.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Quinebaug Regional Technology Park.

In accordance with the Town of Putnam Bidding Ordinance, the appraisal firm of Andrews & Galvin Appraisal Services, LLC has been hired to appraise the four lots of Phase I. I was asked to speak to the Pomfret Economic Development Cmsn. to discuss the project and any future projects that may be of regional interest.

Industrial Park Updates

- Negotiations regarding the sale of Lot 9 continue – Require legal opinion on sewer/septic
- 48 Industrial Park Rd – Lighting upgrades and security system complete
- Appointments are being made for September tours of IPark businesses

PBA Beautification Committee

The consideration of a Flower Bridge is being researched for cascading planters on the rails of Bridge St in the hope of a pump fed wicking system from the Quinebaug River for watering and fertilizing. A proposal has been submitted with 44 boxes needing to be built and sponsored by community members and businesses to cover costs as well as a naming of the Bridge opportunity. A Dueling Bartending Night is being scheduled for August 27th between The Crossings and Jessica Tuesdays Restaurants to cover the cost of the upgraded panels to the PW Railroad trestle. Partners include the Town of Putnam, the Putnam Business Assoc and the Providence Worcester RR.

CT Main Street Preservation of Place Grant – Downtown Design Guidelines and Standards

The Preservation of Place 2015 project has been awarded to TranSystems, Dennis Goderre, Project Manager. A meeting is scheduled for August 13th to meet with Town staff and business leaders in the community to discuss the steps for a Downtown Design Guidelines and Standards process and more importantly, is it implementable. An on-line survey and interactive web-map will be posted on the Town's website for people to answer questions and be guided in the process. A visual guide will also be posted for people to select design preference. A public workshop will be held on August 27th at 5:30 pm.

Ongoing Projects/Venues/Announcements

- First Fridays Events
- Revamping filing system based on the Grant Management
- QVCC StoryWalk Project
- Plan of Conservation and Development
- Eastern Regional Tourism
- Riverview Marketplace Rental
- Saturday Farmers Market
- Redevelopment Agency Revolving Loans
- Community Garden