

Town Administration

Contract Updates

- Selected SLR for the Trail Design between Putnam River Trail and Killingly, upcoming months will include scoping and budgeting proposals.

Status and Upcoming

- Initial FY27 Budget preparations, including Department Head requests due in December 2025. Mayor's budget to be developed January-February 2026.
- Completing annual Department Head evaluations in December.

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Plan of Conservation and Development: Land Use leading and P&Z Commission. Review of draft sections, with expected timeline to include Board of Selectmen view in January or February 2026.

- Putnam EMS: expect unit onsite this month. Ordered furniture from WB Mason, and emergency generator for new facility by PB Generators.

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Belding: good recent progress including the State finalizing and signing the Financial Assistance Plan for remediation. Coordinating with developer, internal staff and legal counsel to create proposed Tax Abatement Agreement. Proposed for Selectmen and later this month, Finance Board, consideration.

- Registrar and Voting Efforts: in early 2026, will need to request update from Registrar for management of employment/FICA terms to be determined.

- Pension Board meeting in December, including status and update of fund, and discussion of possible change to allow Pension recipients to work for the Town for limited days (retired Town employees as election workers for example). If Pension Board selects to pursue, broker input and Town Meeting vote would be required.

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Health Insurance: considering options for continuation with ECHIP. Recent years have seen increased costs, and depending on FY27 budget planning, may consider other options. An ECHIP meeting is planned for January with other member municipalities weighing in on their expected choice.

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Recreation Office Clerk retired in November, coordinating with Union position to update job description, and expect to internally post in upcoming weeks.

- General Government: new proposed ordinances for Veteran's 100% disabled exemption reduction to Town's median dwelling value (including coordination with VAC), and for Zoning Officer fines similar to existing blight.

- Tech Park Four-Party Agreement: updated draft Agreement for Board of Selectmen consideration in December, with possible Special Town Meeting for modified/restated Four Party Agreement in January 2026.

- St Marie Greenhalgh Track Improvements Project: Design efforts underway. Note that other improvements to the area, including scoreboards are also planned.

- Pomfret Transfer Station: internal planning for implementation, including days opened, method of residency, any associated user fees will be longer-term discussion.

- Trash program: considering adjustment to annual program cost - will review and propose to Board of Selectmen in early 2026.

- BOE projects: Roof project has been difficult, with recent near-completion and some outstanding warranties and negotiations ongoing.

- Air Line Trail between Putnam and Killingly. State approved Town's recommendation to select SLR of Cheshire, CT as the design engineer (Quals based selection). Next several months will include scoping followed by proposed budget.

Road and Sidewalk Improvements

Status and Upcoming

- School Street Sidewalks projects: All construction work complete. Project closeout activities, including LOTCIP financials.
- Kennedy Drive Parking Improvements: Likely will include additional paving on Kennedy Drive expected for Spring 2026, since did not complete in Fall 2025.
- NECCOG design for upcoming years' sidewalks improvements. ECD office leading: Grove St and South Main St (including Chapman, Fremont, King, Center etc.) - expect to apply for Community Connectivity Grant; and towards Walmart - which might be a LOTCIP application.
- [Ongoing: Highway has various additional paving projects seasonally.]

Bridges

Status and Upcoming

- Danco Drive Bridge: One lane of bridge complete, Eversource Gas reconnected their utility, and Contractor moved to the 2nd lane. Contractor to continue work as long as weather allows, with likely winter shutdown. Some bridge work may be pushed to Spring 2026, along with final paving.
- Same as last month: Wicker Street culvert: expect in-situ pipe repair via lining options, possible site work in Spring 2026.
- Ongoing: Consultant work on inspecting under-20-ft span bridges. Highway completed several minor bridge repair recommendations at the under-20 bridges, including guide rail installation and vegetation clearing. Larger maintenance recommendations will be contracted.
- Ongoing: State DOT for the state's new 100% funded program, including Bridges E Putnam over Cady Brook and Chase Road over Cady Brook. Possible Rhode Island Road over Mary Brown Brook is eligible.
- East Putnam over Mary Brown Brook: WMC design engineers recommend lining rather than full replacement, and expect to apply for DOT State Local 50/50 funding. Upcoming ACOE and DEEP permitting expected.
- [Note Highway Department continues to complete minor repairs that were identified on previous inspections (spalling repair, guiderail repair).

Athletic and Recreation

Status and Upcoming

- Same as last month: Tennis Courts on Church St: reviewing other municipal recent examples and considering options for contractors for paving, painting/stripping. Possible construction Spring 2026.
- Track Improvements: CHA completing design deliverables in upcoming months.
- Same as last month/Ongoing: Gravel excavation by contractor for Sabin Street Recreation Field construction work. Land Use Director leading. Based on material availability, expect 1 year of continued gravel excavation activities. Town efforts including landscaping to follow excavation.
- Same as last month/Ongoing: coordination with consultant Weston & Sampson for Airline Trail Improvements project including connection to Putnam River Trail at Quinebaug River (Town of Pomfret leading). ACOE permitting expect construction to start 2026 or later. Town of Putnam Wetlands Commission approved project's application December 10th.
- Ongoing: Air Line Connection between Putnam and Intervale St: Land Use and ECD leading. Barton & LoGiudice ongoing efforts including layout of road-adjacent trail (wide-width sidewalk). Expect design to continue through Fall 2026.

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- CT Greenway Connection between Putnam and Killingly: DOT TAP funds. Received DOT approval to select SLR.
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Other Town Responsibilities

Status and Upcoming

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- For Route 44 Retaining Wall DOT project: Ongoing coordination with WPCA, engineer, and DOT. 6-month Detour expected, possibly beginning Spring 2026.
 - WPCA: planning for additional state funding for water treatment filter rehabilitation and lead and copper service connection construction. Likely will need Town Referendum in first quarter of 2026.
 - Belding Grant with DECD: Following finalization of State contracts and Agreements, developer to contract for remediation work - expect 2026 remediation start.
 - Senior transportation program, hired personnel and coordinating necessary training. ECD and Veteran's offices leading. Veteran's Office has additional funding approved to provide for Veteran transport days. Expect both programs to be available to eligible public in January 2026.
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Conferences and Training

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- COST Quarterly Board Meetings
 - CTCMA Meetings
 - CCM Legislative Meetings
 - CCM ongoing training credits for CCMO
 - CCM Annual Conference Dec 1-2
 - NEWEA Annual Water and Wastewater Conference Jan 26-28
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