

Town Administration**Contract Updates**

- Late January 2026 contracted for FY27 fuel contract with Dime Oil. Diesel and gasoline unit prices locked in.
- Four-Party Agreement per Special Town Meeting approval in late January. Tentative property closing by June 30th.

Status and Upcoming

- Continued FY27 Budget development and review. Mayor's Budget has been presented to the Board of Selectmen, and in March, will be modified as applicable to move to Board of Finance review.
- Ongoing: Plan of Conservation and Development: Land Use leading and P&Z Commission. Spring 2026 P&Z work and then public information sessions.
- Putnam EMS: final onsite fitout through March, ramp and furniture scheduled for April.
- Belding: continued good progress including State DECD efforts towards final contract, and other State agency review including SHPO and DEEP.
- Pension Board: Summary meeting presenting Plan options with 20-30 employees attended. March 2026 Special Town Meeting planned for vote to text modification for past Town employees to work for the Town on a limited basis.
- Pension and Union: discussion meeting scheduled in late March 2026. Some members may be interested in requesting financial benefit modifications, which if formalized, would require actuarial input and several Town Board approvals including legislative body/Town Meeting.
- Health Insurance: ECHIP is disbanding as of June 30 2026. Other multiple-town groups considered but higher cost than other options. Expect to hear options from private broker firm in March 2026, and will compare those options against the existing plan and the State Partnership Plan. Town budget includes funding estimate based on similar plan and/or State Partnership Plan.
- Mayor and Town Administration coordinating with SSD Chair and Vice Chair for scheduled recurring meetings to discuss shared responsibilities and opportunities for coordination. Opportunities for improved communications on various topics including Flock cameras, health insurance, training, property maintenance. Expect to hold recurring monthly meetings.
- Hired Recreation Coordinator to replace retired Recreation Clerk, with start date of early March 2026. The Coordinator position will include technical and program components, including field activities like events and sports.
- General Government: waiting for VAC input and possibly legislative session changes for any additional optional municipal exemptions to consider. In upcoming months, consider review of Zoning Fine ordinance and/or Sidewalk Snow Clearing ordinance.
- Tech Park Four-Party Agreement: Approved at January 2026 Town Meeting, working with other parties for next steps, including their application for Lot 28 gravel.
- St Marie Greenhalgh Track Improvements Project: Final design ongoing, expect Spring bid period. Separately, scoreboards replacement/installation by Rec and Highway Depts.
- Pomfret Transfer Station: Met with Pomfret to review initial and long-term expectations. Paid FY26 share to Pomfret. (Each community pays their own waste disposal costs.)
- Same as last month: Trash program: considering adjustment to annual program cost - will review and propose to Board of Selectmen in 2026.
- Same as last month: 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. DOT reviewing SLR proposed scope, and includes Town of Killingly input. Trail path will remain east of the Quinebaug River from the Putnam canoe launch into the Killingly industrial park.

Road and Sidewalk Improvements

Status and Upcoming

- Kennedy Drive Parking Improvements: Will coordinate with contractor for additional paving on Kennedy Drive in Spring 2026.
- Ongoing: NECCOG design for upcoming years' sidewalks improvements. ECD office leading: Grove St and South Main St (including Chapman, Fremont, King, Center etc.) - applied 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: Construction continues on 2nd lane. Contractor restarted in early March, after winter shutdown. Dewatering activities and then concrete pours for wingwalls etc.
- Ongoing: State DOT for the state's new 100% funded program, including Bridges E Putnam over Cady Brook and Chase Road over Cady Brook. Public Information Meeting held in December for Chase over Cady; and similar meeting held in February 2026 regarding East Putnam Road over Cady Bridge. 2027 and 2028 construction timeline.
- 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. Waiting for DOT feedback on lining vs full replacement. Upcoming ACOE and DEEP permitting expected.
- 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.
- [Note Highway Department continues to complete minor repairs that were identified on previous inspections (spalling repair, guiderail repair).

Athletic and Recreation

Status and Upcoming

- Tennis Courts on Church St: Town Admin and Rec Dept coordinating to draft RFP for court improvements
- including sitework, pavement, final coating/stripping, fence replacement. Advertisement for bidding Spring 2026.
- Track Improvements: CHA completing design with Spring 2026 advertisement/bidding.
- 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 late 2026 or 2027. 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. SLR consultants provided draft scope, DOT to review and then budget for design. Design start likely Summer 2026, several years out for construction.
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Other Town Responsibilities

Status and Upcoming

- Ongoing: Coordinating with SSD regarding various shared and related components including Town Pension, liability insurance, health insurance, mock-OSHA safety reviews, and FY27 budget components.
 - Union Square Courtyard Improvements: waiting for response to Town's application for DEEP Community Garden Grant Program.
 - For Route 44 Retaining Wall DOT project: Ongoing coordination with WPCA, engineer, and DOT. 6-month Detour expected, possibly beginning Spring 2026. DOT bid opening held February 4, 2026; Contract award pending.
 - WPCA: planning for additional DPH state funding for water treatment filter rehabilitation and lead and copper service connection construction. Likely will need Town Referendum in Summer 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. As of March 2026, Senior transportation program kickoff. Veteran's in upcoming months. Recreation and Veteran's offices leading.
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Conferences and Training

- COST Quarterly Board Meetings
 - CTCMA Meetings
 - CCM Legislative Meetings
 - CCM ongoing training credits for CCMO
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